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THE THEATRE GOERS' GUIDE

List of West End Theatres open, with address, 'phone number, current attraction, and time of starting the performance.

ADELPHI (Strand).—"The Boy," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Inside the Lines," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3243.

COMEDY (Panton-street). — "Bubbly," 8.15. Mon., Fri., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3724.

CRITERION (Piccadilly-circus). — "A Little Bit of Fluff," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Regent 3365 and Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Leicester-square).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 8. Tues., Sat., 2. Gerr. 202.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane).—"The Thirteenth Chair," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 314.

GARRICK (Charing Cross-road). — "The Saving Grace," 8.30 (Monday excepted). Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 9513.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "The Willow Tree," 2.30. Wed., Sat., 8.30. Gerr. 8722.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket).—"General Post," 8.30. Mon., Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Regent 6030.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 1777.

KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen-street).—"When Knights Were Bold," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.

LYCEUM (Wellington-street).—"Seven Days' Leave," 7.45. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7617-8.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Romance," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3687.

OXFORD (Oxford-street).—"The Better 'Ole," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 3934.

PALACE (Shaftesbury - avenue). — "Pamela," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.

PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross).—"The Yellow Ticket," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3970.

PRINCE'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Carminetta," 8.0. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7482.

QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Brewster's Millions," 8.30. Wed., 2.30. Gerr. 9437.

ROYALTY (Dean-street). — "Billeted," 2.30. Thurs. and Sat., 8.15. Gerr. 3855.

ST. JAMES'S (King-st., S.W.).—"Charley's Aunt," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 3903.

SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Arlette," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 6666.

STRAND (Aldwych).—"Wild Heather," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3830.

VAUDEVILLE (Strand). — "Cheep," 8.15; Tues., Thursday, Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3815.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road).—"Dear Brutus," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Regent 3028.

VARIETY THEATRES.

ALHAMBRA (Leicester - square). — "Round the Map," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross). — Vesta Tilley, Grock and Partner, Coram, Ching Wu, Tom Clare, Carmel Quartette, Hymack, Laura Novea, Emerald and Dupre, Meredith and Adnil, Bioscope, 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 7541.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).—"Here and There," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.

LONDON HIPPODROME (Cranbourn-st.).—"Zig-Zag," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.

LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus). —"Any Old Thing." 8.15. Mon., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3886.

PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.)—Wilkie Bard, Hetty King, Whit Cunliffe, Daly and Healy, Mabel Manson, Dorothy Varick, Mazuz and Mazette, Elsie Southgate, Cissie Lupino, "The Johnson 'Ole," 2.30, 6.10, and 9. Gerr: 1004.

FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

THE COLISEUM.

Comedy is the keynote of the bill at the Coliseum this week, song, mystery, and juggery making up the remainder.

Vesta Tilley alone remains from last week. It is difficult to find words in which to do justice to Miss Tilley's artistry. Originality of conception, masterly introduction and arrangement of detail distinguish her work in a degree greater than ever. You may sit in the front row of the orchestra stalls with the best hearing, eyesight, and the keenest critical faculty in the world, and hear and see nought but perfection in "We've All Got to be Regulated," "For a Fortnight in July," and "It's a Fine Time for a Soldier." These numbers are all human, humorous and topical, and provide the audience with a feast that is a joy for ever.

Tom Clare is doing first-rate work with "Cynthia," and the humorous orchestral intervention that pleases everyone, "A Little Dude Story" and "You're a Great Big, Bouncing Bundle of Wonderful Girl." The last is a capital skit on recent songs imported from America. I have never seen Tom to better advantage.

No. 7 on the programme is our old and tried friend "Intermission," a turn I have, I am afraid, made a habit of neglecting. This week I propose to devote a line or two to this sexless item on account of the newcomers to the pictures thrown upon the safety curtain while it is "on." These two newcomers are Lord Rothermere, the new Air Minister, and Lord Northcliffe, who is still doing wonders for us in America. I have often marvelled at the applause the Coliseum audiences bestow upon the dim pictures of heroes on the fireproof curtain, but I learned something about this on Monday, for it occurred to me that the public will cheer Lord Rothermere after we have inflicted disaster upon a raiding Gotha army, or retaliated by flattening out a German town. And I hope they will applaud Lord Northcliffe heartily when the first million of America's fighting men are in the line, for he will have done much towards getting them there.

Three young ladies, African born and bred, the Misses Eugenie, Julia and Emma Carmel, made their début on Monday in a high-class musical act. They are daughters of a Capetown journalist, and arrive in England bearing all the musical honours and titles Capetown, Johannesburg, and Durban have to bestow. Miss Rita Cordova, the English soprano, is included in the Carmel Quartette, as these ladies style themselves. The musical act is popular, and the Carmel Quartette should become famous here.

Coram and Jerry continue to evoke side-splitting laughter, and Hymack still changes his clothes in a manner and at a pace that baffles us all. If he were lost, a description of his attire would be useless, for he would change it at every second; but he must enjoy a great advantage over his fellows when getting into bed on cold nights, for he gets out of his suit and into his pyjamas before the atmosphere could affect him. If he can dress as quickly as he undresses, he should never be destroyed in a house consumed by fire during the night. If by some unfortunate accident his house should ever catch fire, I hope I may be there to see him. Mlle. Laura Novea, a Belgian lady, sings in English and French. She has a charming personality and a lovely voice, and there was no doubt that she found favour with her audience.

Grock, the inimitable, "carries on" as usual. His popularity has increased, but his nonsense cannot become funnier, and if laughter could kill his responsibilities would be unbearable. He is a human blessing in these days of war, sorrow and gloom.

Meredith and Adnil are amazing acrobats, whose work is novel. I frankly envy the gentleman the strength he has in one finger and the power in his teeth. He holds a weight of 435lbs. in the latter. He makes the audience breathless, and I don't understand why it doesn't make him toothless.

Emerald and Dupre give their excellent comedy act, which is bright and amusing, and Ching Wu, the magician, among many other wonderful things, borrows watches from two gentlemen in the audience, and after treating them as watches were never intended to be treated, returns them to their owners with a glass of wine apiece. The other members of the audience at the tee-total Coliseum turn green with envy, and when later Ching Wu asks for the loan of a hat there is a regular scramble to oblige. There is no wine left, however, when he has finished with the hat.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.

"Carminetta" was on Monday evening transferred from the Prince of Wales's Theatre to the more commodious Prince's, and a full house gave the attractive play a very cordial reception in its new home. With the additional lures of popular prices and "smoking allowed," there is every reason to suppose that "Carminetta" will continue her successful career. Messrs. Leon Morton, Robert Cunningham, Dennis Neilson-Terry, J. M. Campbell, and Misses May Beatty, Florence Vie, Marie Blanche, and Alice Delysia appeared in their original parts, and the whole performance reflected the highest credit on their individual efforts.

The Bristol Commercial Travellers' Dramatic Society gave their annual performance at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on the 10th inst., for the purpose of raising funds for their institutions and local charities.

KING GEORGE'S ACTORS' FUND

"THE MAN FROM BLANKLEY'S."

Comedy, by F. Anstey, Revived at His Majesty's in Aid of King George's Pension Fund for Actors on Friday, Dec. 14.

Lord Strathpeffer ....Charles Hawtrey
Mr. Montague Tidmarsh ....Weedon Grossmith
Mr. Gabriel Gilwattle..Frederick Volpé
Mr. Toomer ....Nigel Playfair
Mr. Jeremiah Ditchwater ....E. Holman Clark
Mr. Nathaniel Bodfish ....H. B. Irving
Mr. Poffley ....Nelson Keys
Dawes ....A. E. George
Mrs. Montague Tidmarsh..Ellis Jeffreys
Mrs. Gilwattle ....Lottie Venne
Mrs. Ditchwater ....Mary Jerrold
Mrs. Bodfish ....Clare Greet
Miss Bugle ....Sydney Fairbrother
Miss Cecilia Flinders..Irene Vanbrugh
Gwendoline Tidmarsh ....Baba Farren
Jane ....Doris Lytton
Hannah ....Mona Harrison
Miss Marjory Seaton ..Gladys Cooper

There is "command" in more senses than one in the annual performance in aid of King George's Pension Fund for those designated by Sir Squire Bancroft as "the most charitable people in all the world"—actors and actresses—held this year at His Majesty's Theatre last Friday afternoon. In addition to the play commanded by His Majesty, the performance "commands" the presence of an all-star cast, doubled and trebled prices, a host of the prettiest actresses to sell programmes, and an audience composed of everybody who can flatter themselves that they are all au courant with the events of the theatrical world.

Necessity demands that the play chosen should have a big cast, that each member of the cast should have at least one opportunity of occupying the undivided attention of the audience, and that each should have as far as possible a character part in which he or she can shine intermittently. Apart from its delightful jollity and cleverness, could a better play have been chosen for the purpose than Mr. F. Anstey's "Man from Blankley's," produced originally with enormous success in 1901, revived with equal success in 1906, and caricaturing with the same forgivable exaggeration the manners of wealthy Suburbia to-day as it did nearly seventeen years ago? What a joy it was on Friday afternoon to see once again that well-remembered suburban drawing-room, with its obtrusively patterned wall-paper, its couches and settees and ottomans, to listen to the over-anxious hostess, Mrs. Montague Tidmarsh (Miss Ellis Jeffreys), in pink silk brocade, rating her husband, the "quaint little Tidmarsh" (Mr. Weedon Grossmith) for failing to understand her wishes! With what delight did we view the arrival of the guests as they were announced in turn by the contemptuously patronising one-evening butler (Mr. A. E. George).

[Photo., Dobson, Liverpool.
MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER.
Secretary of King George's Pension Fund for Actors.

Each appearance was the signal for an outburst of cheers—Miss Lottie Venne as Mrs. Gilwattle, in red velvet and ermine, with yellow feather waving erect from diamond tiara; Miss Clare Greet as Mrs. Bodfish, in yellow satin, accompanied by Mr. H. B. Irving, unrecognisable at first, as the learned Mr. Bodfish; Miss Sydney Fairbrother, as the spinster who resembled a "wet crow"; Miss Mary Jerrold, in sad-coloured sage garments as Mrs. Ditchwater; Miss Irene Vanbrugh, as the skittish Cissy Flinders, in white muslin, blue ribbons, and pink rosebuds, persistently ogling that wit of Suburbia, Mr. Poffley (Mr. Nelson Keys). How joyous it was to see the company gathered round the dinner-table with the unbidden guest, Lord Strathpeffer, seated between his hostess and her child's governess, charming Miss Seaton (Miss Gladys Cooper), blandly and beautifully unaware of the undeserved contempt in which he is held by both. Perhaps the most eagerly awaited moment was the one when Lord Strathpeffer discovers that he has unwittingly represented a "hired guest," and, "tickled to death," as the Americans say, at the joke, he shakes and doubles up and weeps with laughter until the whole house ripples and sways with sympathetic mirth.

The presence of their Majesties the King and Queen and H.R.H. Princess Mary lent an added lustre to a memorable afternoon.

THE STAGE SOCIETY.

The Incorporated Stage Society opened its nineteenth season with a triple bill, a ballet and a couple of plays, at the Royal Court Theatre on Sunday and Monday afternoons of this week.

The first play,

"THE PHILOSOPHER OF BUTTER-BIGGENS,"

Comedy, in One Act, by Harold Chapin, was one of four plays by the same author produced at a special memorial performance to raise funds for a Y.M.C.A. hut on December 14, 1916. Once again Mr. Campbell Gullan played the part of the shrewd old Scotch grandfather, advising his hen-pecked son-in-law (Mr. George Howard) on the treatment of women in general and wives in particular, artfully contriving to get "the only thing worth having in the world, one's own way," by playing on his daughter's (Miss Norah Balfour) fear of the neighbours' tongues. The part of "Wee Geordie" was as on the first occasion, played by Master Harold Valetta Chapin, the small son of the author.

"FETES GALANTES,"

By Mme. Donnet,

was described on the programme as "a sort of amiable satire on the mannerisms—the preciosité—of the French eighteenth century, an attempt to represent in a few touches both its subtle charm and its grotesqueness." So exquisitely quaint in its conception and so quaintly exquisite in its interpretation was this gem of a ballet that to me—and, I think, to many others—the charm far exceeded the grotesqueness, or should I say, the grotesqueness became charming. The colourings—a background of the faint blue-grey of a sunshiny winter sky; the silver-grey, high-waisted, full-skirted dresses of the ladies and the deep prune-coloured costumes of their swains; the dainty, studied gestures, the elegant affectation of the tripping and posturing, formed a combined delight, which I hope to renew on another occasion. Mlle. Rambert as "la coquette Marquise," M. Jean Varda, as "l'amoureux Marquis," and Miss Ruth French, as a dancer, caught the spirit of the ballet to perfection, and [illegible] Miss Eva Reynolds-Ryan was a delightful [illegible]

"YOUTH AT THE HELM."

Play, in One Act, by Granville Barker.
The Maid ....Margaret Omar
Lord Silverwell ....Nigel Playfair
Mrs. Torpenhouse ....Mary Jerrold
The Hon. Noel Wychway ....Henry Daniell
Lewis Torpenhouse ..Campbell Gullan

Written in June, 1914, clever, full of thought, and interesting as the play is, there is something in it, difficult to fix, that jars a little. Perhaps it is the seeming futility in these times of an argument concerning the secrecy of the ballot and containing sly hits at Tories and Liberals when there is a Coalition Government in power. Lewis Torpenhouse has been agent to a Liberal member (a newly-made peer) for thirty years. When Noel Wychway steps into his father's shoes and contests the seat, he loses it by one vote, and Torpenhouse confesses that "for conscience sake," he has "folded up his little Tory vote so tight and dropped it gently in" every time. The remainder is patient explanation on the part of the incomplete idealist of his secret sin, of which he is half-ashamed, half-proud; bewilderment, dismay, and expedient forgiveness from Lord Silverwell; partial understanding from youth typified by Noel; and divine, uncomprehending sympathy from his adorable wife, Mary. It is a play that could be discussed by the hour, and would give rise to a host of arguments on politics, on ethics, on women, and a dozen other subjects. It was excellently acted by a particularly well-chosen cast.

"BLIGHT."

Play, in Three Acts, by A. and O., Produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Tuesday, Dec. 11.

Stanislaus Tully ....Fred O'Donovan
Mrs. Mary Foley ....May Craig
Jimmy ....Michael MacNaimmhoir
Lily ....Irene Kelly
Mrs. Maxwell-Knox..Margaret Nicholls
Mrs. Larrisey ....Maureen Delany
Mr. Bannerman ....Maurice Esmonde
Larrisey ....P. J. McDonnell
A Labourer ....Barry Fitzgerald
Medical Dick ....Arthur Shields
Medical Davy ....Clement Carrick
Charwoman ....Dorothy Lynd
George Foley ....Brian Herbert

Dramatically speaking, there are obvious faults in construction, but regarding the play as a convincing piece of propagandist work it deserves the highest praise.

The gist of the play throughout is to point forcibly the shocking evils of the Dublin slum conditions. The play, though relieved throughout with really clever and amusing gibes at local charitable societies, slum owners, and the "Corporation," is of a somewhat sordid character.

The piece was capably presented by the full Abbey company. Fred O'Donovan scored in a perfect character study as Tully, the worthless labourer, and afterwards the crafty Cornorator. Miss Irene Kelly made the most of a trying part. Miss Margaret Nicholls as the district visitor played the part admirably.

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Supplies good Troupe, Solo, and Ballet Dancers. 5, Denmark-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

MISS EDITH BLANDE.
(Mrs. Austin Brereton).
Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

MISS HELEN BRINCKMAN.
Dramatic Reciter.
"A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens.

LYDIA DONOVAN.
Leading Business. On tour with "Ghosts." Disengaged Dec. 31 (term. of tour). Offers invited, good-class play or comedy. This, 27, Derbyshire-st., Radcliffe, near Manchester. Perm. add., Actors' Association.

MISS MAUDE S. DREWRY.
Disengaged. Leading Business.
21, Rivercourt-road, W. 6, or A.A.

MISS IDA ERNEST.
Concluded months' Revue Tour. Pantomime, T.R., Portsmouth, opening Dec. 26.

MISS TILLY FOULDS.
Madam Jollette, "Toto" Co. Dec. 17 and 24. Prince of Wales Theatre, Grimsby. Address, en route.

MISS CLAUDIA GUILLOT.
Disengaged.
Address, 5, Loraine-mansions, Holloway.

MISS MARIE HEMINGWAY.
Disengaged, for Comedy, Musical Comedy, or Revue. 2s, Hyde Park-mans., N.W. 1. Pad. 6366.

MRS. WALTER HOWARD
(Miss Agnes Chesson). Not working.
99, Airedale-avenue, Chiswick, W. 4.

MISS ESTHER McPHERSON.
Engaged by Horace Hodges, Esq., for "Grumpy" tour. 14, Bridge-avenue, Hammersmith, W.

MISS VERA DE MERSDEN.
Principal Girl, "Aladdin," Grand Opera House, Scarborough, opening Dec. 24.

MISS JOSEPHINE MIDDLETON. Disengaged Dec. 23. Address, A.A., 32, Regent-street, W. 1.

MISS LOLA PATEY.
Disengaged.
118, Heald Grove, Rusholme, Manchester.

MISS MINNIE RAYNER.
Mrs. Clugston, in "The Rotters." Ringwater Cottage, Thames Ditton, Surrey.

MISS LILIAN ROSEBERY wishes all friends a Happy Christmas, with Peace and Prosperity for 1918. This, Hippo., Margate. Next, Barnard's, Woolwich.

MISS VIOLET RUSSELL, Disengaged for Comedy, Character in Comedy, Drama, or Revue. 195, South Lambeth-road, S.W. 8, or A.A.

MISS BLANKA STEWART.
Disengaged. Comedy, Society, and Foreign Parts. 2, Margaret-st., W.

MISS FRANCES WARING.
Disengaged for special weeks.
334, High-road, Lee, S.E. 12.

MISS GRACE WARNER
Invites offers. Lead, Heavy, or Special Parts. 46, St. Michael's-hill, Bristol.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED.
General Manager, "Damaged Goods" Co. Address, Christmas, Empire, Sunderland.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE.
4, Grafton-street, Piccadilly, W.
Christmas week, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

MR. J. HASTINGS BATSON.
"The G.O.M. of Filmland." Vide "Evening News." C/o "The Era," or A.A.

MR. TOM BLACKLOCK.
Address,
51, Crewdson-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. CHARLES BOULT.
Dis. for good Christmas tour as Gen. Man. 21, Horace-st., St. Helens.

MR. A. ARTHUR BRANDON.
Comedy, Character, S.M.
Disengaged Dec. 23.
Write, 58, Sayer-st., New Kent-rd., S.E. 17.

MR. H. T. BRICKWELL.
Managing Director,
Canterbury Theatre of Varieties, S.E.

MR. W. H. CAVENDISH.
L. Com. Char., Aris. Old Men, Legitimate. Town. Dis. Putney Heath, S.W.

MR. THEOPHILUS CHARLTON. Leading Business. Disengaged Dec. 31. Good-class play or comedy. This week, 27, Derbyshire-st., Radcliffe, Manchester.

MR. C. F. COLLINGS. "Inside the Lines," Balham Hippodrome. Disengaged Dec. 22. 77, The Vale, Golders Green, N.W. 4.

MR. WAL CROFT.
Special Scotch part, Harry McKelvie's "Bo-Peep." K.T., Greenock. Next, T.R., Boston.

MR. FRANCIS DANIEL.
Juveniles or Light Comedy.
Disengaged Jan. 3.
Term of "The Jeffersons" Tour.
Thanks Mr. A. Douglas for offer of re-engagement for Spring Tour.
Disengaged Jan. 3.
Letters, Brunswick-street, South Shields.

MR. ARTHUR ELWYN.
Leads. Concluded special engagement with Mrs. Langtry in "Ashes." Disengaged owing to change of repertoire. 70, Somers-road, Portsmouth.

MR. WALTER GAY.
Disengaged. Leading Business.
31, Hamilton Gardens, N.W. 8.

MR. GEORGE GORDON.
Dis. Lead, Heavy, or Management. Thanks Lawrence Brough, Esq. 146, St. Michael's-hill, Bristol.

MR. WALTER GRAHAM.
Dis. Dec. 24. Lead, Char., Comedy. 38, Millbrook-road, Brixton.

MR. FRED GROVE.
Disengaged for a few weeks.
50, Gresham-road, Brixton, S.W. 9.

MR. ALFRED HARDING.
Disengaged,
Add., 50, Pelham-rd., Wimbledon, S.W. 19.

MR. J. COURT HARVARD.
Character, Comedy, Old Men.
Rev. Hubert Swizel,
"The Double Event."
Empire, Penge; next, Actors' Association.

MR. EDMUND KENNEDY.
Disengaged until Jan. 21. 7, St. Andrew's-mansions, West Kensington, W. 14.
'Phone, Western 702.

MR. H. VAL KIMM.
Manager, "Vanity Fair." Dec. 24, Empire, Bristol. Season's greetings to all friends.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE.
"Mr. R. H. Lace's Biondello is perfect." Arrangements complete. A. A.

MR. CHARLES LAKE.
Business and S. Man. On Tour. 3, Woodlands-av., Church End, Finchley, N.

MR. FAWCETT LOMAX.
Dis. Dec. 31, term of "Ghosts" tour. Palace, Radcliffe; next, Palace, Rawtenstall.

MR. & MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY. Own Tour.
En route, or "Restrevor," Poulton-le-Fylde.

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At liberty. Char., Com., or Business Management. 11, The Avenue, Bare, Lancs.

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Adelphi Theatre.
Re Nita Rae's plays for tour, stock, or cinemas, address,
4, Ordnance-rd., St. John's Wood, N.W.

MR. and MRS. J. NELLA
(Miss Edgley Clare). Dis. Juvenile Lead, Juveniles, L. Comedy. 97, Upper Dale-rd., Derby.

MR. JOHN NESBITT.
Disengaged. Old Men.
11, Mornington-crescent, N.W. 1.

MR. TERENCE O'BRIEN.
Christmas Season, Lysander,
The Playhouse, Liverpool.

MR. RONALD BAYNE.
Disengaged.
54, Trinity-square, Brixton, S.W. 9.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON.
Arrangements complete.
"Langdale Chase," Windermere.

MR. JOHN B. SHINTON.
Star Lead, Producer, and Stage Director, Her Majesty's Repertory Company, Walsall.
201st week
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Production of
Drama, Farcical Comedy,
Musical Comedy,
Pantomime.
Producing Pantomime, "Aladdin," on a most elaborate scale,
Boxing Day (matinée, 2 p.m.).
Concludes four years' contract with the Walsall Theatres Company, Ltd., Feb. 7.
MISS ADA M. RYDER (Mrs. John B. Shinton), Star Lead.
201st week.
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201st week.
Address all communications,
JOHN B. SHINTON,
Her Majesty's, Walsall.

MR. ALFRED STRETTON.
Dis. Heavy Leading Business. Dis. 17, Park-place, Merthyr, S. Wales.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL.
Dis., Char. Parts or Old Men.
27, Charrington-street, N.W. 1.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR.
Capt. Woodhouse, "Inside the Lines," Poplar. Disengaged for a few weeks, Dec. 31. A.A., 32, Regent-street.

MR. G. HOWARD WATSON.
Disengaged for Management, good music hall or theatre, or first-class company. The Glebe House, Whitton-road, Twickenham.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.2. 581 Gerr. "Frivolous, Westrand, London."

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MR. C. A. WHITE.
Concludes suburban tour as Jarvis and Eccles. Disengaged Dec. 22. This, Hippo., Croydon, or A.A.

MR. E. FENTON WINGATE.
Res'ng Eng'mt. At lib. reh. Dec. 31. A. M. and Part if necessary.
Add., till Dec. 29, c/o MULHOLLAND, 21, Apsley-place, S.S. Glasgow.

WANTED ADVERTISEMENTS

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COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E. Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 11, 18, on.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Jan. 28, March 18, 25, April 1, May 20, on.

OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 20, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 2, on.

ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 10, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, 9, 16, on.

HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 25, March 18, April 15, 22, on.
Good Revues, Twice Nightly.

OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
The Opera House is the only building in Northampton holding a Dramatic Licence.
Feb. 4, May 6, 20, 27, June 3, on.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, on.
Add., MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only, County Theatre, Bedford,
April 22, 29, May 20, June 17, July 1, 8, 22, on.
Grand Theatre, Luton,
April 1, May 20, 27, July 15, on.
Theatre Royal, Canterbury,
Feb. 18, March 25, April 8, on.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, F. R. Littler.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only. Vacant dates, Easter (?) (for special musical attraction), June, August Bank Holiday, and onward, with exceptions.
The Very Best Attractions Booked and Rebooked.
Re dates, JAY and MANN.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Big Musical Attraction, March 11 (?), 18, April 8, 29, May 6, 20, 27, June 3, 10, 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, on, with exceptions. Only first-class Attractions can be entertained. ALFRED MANNERS (as above).

Grand Theatre, Rhyl.
Now pencilling dates for Summer Season, 1918, Easter, Whit., July, Aug., Sept.
WANTED, good-class Companies.
SAMUEL THORNLEY, Manager.

DALSTON THEATRE, N.E.
WANTED, First-class Once Nightly Attractions, Feb. 18, 25, March 11, 18, and onwards.
Apply, J. LANGDON LEE.

PAVILION, TORQUAY.
Proprietors, The Corporation.
Manager, Charles G. Price.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 25, also Easter week, May 1, onward. Always good business.

WANTED, good Revues or Pantomimes for Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 18, for the Coliseum, Shoreham-by-Sea, near Brighton. Full particulars, with day bill, to FRENCH'S VARIETY AGENCY, 17, Charing Cross-road, London.

Theatre Royal, Glossop.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Feb., on. Would consider stock season. SINCLAIR NEILL.

NEW THEATRE, WINDSOR.
MANAGER, J. E. BULL.
WANTED, First-class West-End Attractions only for Feb. 25, on.

Scarborough Grand Opera House.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 14, onward. Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

NEW THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-class Company, Jan. 14. Wire immediately through company coming off road owing to joining Colours; also Feb. 4, 11, and 18.
Apply, Trenchard Theatre.

King's Theatre, Sunderland.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Jan. 28, Feb. 25, March 4, April 29, May 6, and on; now booking autumn. Address, L. TOWNROW.

WANTED, good Revue, Jan. 7, to follow MISS EVA ELWES' Company. Other vacancies, Jan. 28, and various on. with exceptions. Daybill, full pars., MANAGER, Palace, Barnoldswick.

THEATRE ROYAL, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, sound attraction, Jan. 7; Thought Transferring. Panto. preferred: also vacant March 4, 25, April 1 and 29.
MARK H. LINDON.

WEST PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 14, 21, and various dates on. Not melodrama.
Apply, A. W. SCHOLEY.

Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.
WANTED, Company, Jan. 7.
STANLEY ROGERS,
Theatre Royal,
North Shields.

Theatre Royal,
Middlesbrough.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, onwards, with exceptions. Particulars to J. CHAS. IMESON, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-U.-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions, Stockport Jan. 28, Feb. 4, March 4, on, with exceptions. Ashton, Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 11, on, with exceptions. Add., CHARLES REVILL, T.R., Stockport.

Empire Palace, Barnsley, and Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
WANTED, Good Companies. Barnsley, Jan. 21, Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18; Merthyr, Feb. 18, March 4, 18, 25, and later.
All the big attractions are booked at these Theatres.
WILL SMITHSON,
Empire Theatre, Barnsley.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, once nightly, for Jan. 28, Feb. 4, March 11 and 25, and late Spring and Summer dates, twice nightly; big attractions only.
Apply, C. G. ELPHINSTONE.

COMPANIES WANTED.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE,
March 7 (3), Easter (?), April 8 (3),
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
Feb. 4, 25, March 4 (3), 11,
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE,
June dates, Late Autumn.
London Representative for W. W. Kelly.
and Opera House, Blackpool,
H. W. ROWLAND'S AGENCY,
52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
'Phone, Regent 1651. Wires, "Topobill, Piccy, London."

Arthur Carlton's Theatres.
WANTED, Companies.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Jan. 21, May 6, July 1, 15, 22, 29, Aug. 5, 19, 26, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, BATH.
Vacant March 25, April 8, 22, May 6, 20, June 3, 10, 17, 24, onwards, with exceptions.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant first three nights of each week Jan. 7, Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, onwards, with exceptions.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Arrangements complete.
THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Spring and Autumn vacancies.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Spring and Autumn vacancies.
KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Arrangements complete.
All other communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Colehurst, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, first-class Musical and other Attractions for Feb. 18, April 22, May 6, and on, with exceptions.
Applications re dates, to HUGH ROBERTSON, T.R., Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only, T.R., DUBLIN.
G.T., DUBLIN.
O.H., BELFAST, March 4.
O.H. CORK, April 1, 8, 15 (?).
G.T., SWANSEA, March 4, 18.
L.T., NEWPORT, March 18, April 1.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON.
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH.
Apply,
THE FREDK. MOUILLOT OFFICES,
1 and 2, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

New Theatre, Oxford.
WANTED, High-class Attractions only, once or twice nightly; bookings include "Peter Pan," "The Better 'Ole," "Bubbly," Martin Harvey, "Bing Boys," "High Jinks," Violet Vanbrugh, "The Invisible Foe," "The Yellow Ticket," Carl Rosa Opera Company.
Apply, S. C. DORRILL.

New Theatre,
Salisbury.
WANTED, London Successes for Jan. 7,
Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25,
March 18, 25,
April 8, and various on.
Now Booking Autumn, 1918.
Companies that can follow "Diplomacy," "The Double Event," "Three Weeks," "Monty's Flapper," "Her Love Against the World," "The Christian," "The Balkan Princess," &c.
Write, ALBANY WARD,
Guildhall Chambers, Weymouth.

WANTED, really powerful Companies for March 4 and May 14, for Golder's Green Hippodrome; twice nightly.
Apply, ARTHUR GIBBONS, Walter House, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, WANTED, WANTED.
ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
GOOD-CLASS REVUE and PANTOS.
EARLY VACANCIES.
PEELS, LTD., CENTRAL HOUSE,
KINGSWAY, W.C.

Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton.
WANTED, January 7, 21, 28, February 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1.
All communications to the MANAGER.

Opera House, Southport.
Opera House, Southport.
WANTED, 1st Class Companies, Feb. 11, March 4, 11, April 22, May 6.
Apply, W. PATRICK,
Queen's Theatre,
Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

WANTED, Dramatic Company or Revue, Jan. 7. MANAGER, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

Palace Theatre,
Weston-super-Mare.
WANTED, Companies, for Feb. 18,
March 11, 25,
April 1, and various on.
The only theatre in the centre of town.
Write, ALBANY WARD
Guildhall Chambers, Weymouth.

For other Companies Wanted, see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin."
WANTED, Jan. 28, on,
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

Established at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, 1891, and still running merrily.
"Under Two Flags" and "East Lynne."
Full production carried. Mr. Frank Fenton as Bertie Cecil and Archibald Carlyle.
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Feb. 4, 25, on.
FRANK FENTON, T.R., King's Lynn; Dec. 10 and 17, T.R., Norwich. Both plays.

WANTED, Dec. 31, and on, for "The Mollusc" Criterion Comedy; also "Cousin Kate." WYLIE THOMPSON, Opera House, Torquay.

"Ann" (6th year) and "Beecham" (3rd year).
WANTED, March 4, 11, April 1, 8.
HALDANE CRICHTON,
Palace, Maidstone.

William De-Lacy's Enterprises, "A Daughter of the Slums," comedy drama, by C. A. Clarke.
WANTED, December 24 and 31.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire, WM. DE-LACY,
Metropole Theatre, Bootle, Lancs.

WANTED, through misunderstanding, Dec. 31, Small Theatres and Halls for "Aladdin" pantomime, South of Scotland; 16 artistes; 6 scenes. Cast includes the Qualities, troupe of dancers, &c.; good comedy. Jan. 7 and 28. BARTLETT, 4, Albany, Dumfries.

THEATRES WANTED.

Something Novel.
"Little Miss Goody."
"Little Miss Goody."
WANTED, good Theatres or Music Halls, Feb. 11, 18 and 25.
"Little Miss Goody" opened to £81 9s. 8d. at Hippo., Aston, Monday, Dec. 10. Closed to £152 17s. 1d. Sat., Dec. 15. A record week; refer the management. Thanks Geo. Anthony for further contracts. HENRY L. OSMOND, T.R., Bury (2 weeks).

MR. and MRS. E. A'DELL'S CO.
"BECAUSE LOVE MADE YOU MINE."
WANTED, CHRISTMAS WEEK.
One of the Finest Played, Dressed, and Staged Dramas on the Road To-day. There is Nothing Better.
Wire,
E. A'DELL,
4, Stratford-avenue, Camp Hill, Birmingham.

E. Vivian Edmonds' Repertoire Company.
WANTED, through disappointment. Jan. 7, also Jan. 28, and Feb. 11; only vacancies until August. E. V. EDMONDS. This, Theatre Royal, Castleford. Next, Prince's, Blackburn.

"The Little Damozel" and "Ghosts."
WANTED, Dec. 24, on, follow Weymouth. Any distance.
WEATHERSBY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C. 2.

Thos. C. Dagnall's Tours.
"THE LITTLE MINISTER."
J. M. Barrie's Famous Comedy, in Five Acts,
from the Haymarket Theatre, London.
Including
Evelyn Ormonde as Lady Babbie.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, North Dec. 31,
Jan. 14 and 28.
"THE LAND OF PROMISE."
(A Play of Canadian Life.)
By W. Somerset Maugham.
From the Duke of York's and New Theatres, London.
Vacant
For First-class Theatres,
Feb. 4, 18,
March 25,
April 1, 22, 29,
May 6, 13, 20, 27.
All communications to
THOS. C. DAGNALL,
Montpelier House,
Beaconsfield, Bridlington, Yorks.

Henry L. Osmond's Mascot Pantomime.
"LITTLE GOODY TWO SHOES."
"LITTLE GOODY TWO SHOES."
WANTED, Good Theatres with large holding capacity. Vacant dates to Feb. 4, 11.
STAR CAST OF PRINCIPALS.
OLIVE WILLIAMS as Boy Blue.
ETHEL GLYDE as "Goody."
J. W. HALL, as Lankey, the Village Slop.
MARK PRACTICE, as Silly Jimmy Swankey, the Village Postman.
W. G. WESLEY, as Dame Anchovey.
CHAS. COWEN as Squire Hardup.
JOHN STRONG, as "Demon Discontent."
MME. CATHERINE ROSINE, Prin. Danseuse.
May Brownlea, as Jack Horner.
Volna Jesney, as Marjory Daw.
Cosmo Troupe of Dancers.
BLERIOT'S Fairy Fountains.
Six Welsh Nightingales.
HENRY L. OSMOND.
T.R., Bury (2 weeks).

"THE WHIRL OF THE TOWN."
A Musical Comedy Revue.
By arrangement with WILKIE BARD.
Entire PALLADIUM Production.
WANTED, Theatres or Halls once or twice nightly,
Jan. 7, 21, on, with exceptions.
Powerful Cast, including MISS GWENNIE HARCOURT, in a Fi-Fi part.
LEN TEEL, from London Pavilion.
Re dates, H. W. ROWLAND,
52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
'Phone, Regent 1651.
Wires, "Topobill, Piccy, London."
Dec. 17, Empire, Camberwell.
Managers are invited to see this show.

J. FORBES KNOWLES' REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"DAVY GARRICK." "SAPHO."
"EAST LYNNE," &c.
WANTED, Jan. 14, 28, Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 11, and onwards.
One play or more per week.
Special Pictorials for each play.
KNOWLES, Hippo., Wrexham (Return), Next, Hippo., Bolton (Return).

MR. FREDERICK HARRISON'S HAYMARKET PRODUCTIONS.
"FISHPINGLE."
By the Author of "Quinneys'."
Ran successfully for 100 performances, and only taken off when Mr. Henry Ainley joined the Army.
WANTED, March 11 (?), 18, 25 (?).
April 1. Tour opens Theatre Royal, Newcastle, in January.
"THE WIDOW'S MIGHT."
This Comedy ran for 104 performances with "laughter incessant all the way."
Vacant Feb. 25, March 18, April 8, May 6.
"QUINNEYS'."
Now booking August-September.
Only vacant Spring date, Feb. 11 (?).
"MR. JUBILEE DRAX
(The Chase for the Blue Diamond).
A Play of Adventure in Turkey, France, and England, by the authors of "Quinneys'" and "The Invisible Foe."
A magnificent Haymarket production.
Twice nightly might be arranged on large stages.
Vacant March 25, April 8, May 13.
EADE MONTEFIORE,
Till Dec. 25, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
Dec. 26, Grand Theatre, Lancaster.
Dec. 31, H.M. Theatre, Carlisle.
Jan. 7, Haymarket Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, Jan. 14, for Arthur Rosebery's
"ALADDIN"
Pantomime, introducing
HETTIE GALE,
FREDDY REGENT,
and full company of 40.
To follow Opera House, Scarboro'.
Opera House, Harrogate,
King's Theatre, Manchester,
Once or twice nightly.
Only vacant date, Jan. 14.
ARTHUR ROSEBERY, 63, Blandford-road, Bedford Park, London, W. 4.

WANTED, Monday next, by Hart and Leonard's Revue,
"Spades and Diamonds."
"Spades and Diamonds."
24 People. Reconstructed Show.
New scenery, dresses. Enormous success last, Batley. This, E.T., Bishop Auckland.
Also want Jan. 7, 14, &c.
Wire for Mon., TALENT, Leeds.
All coms., HART and LEONARD, Eden T., Bishop Auckland.

THEATRES WANTED.

Lionel Rignold and Charles Macdona's "Diplomacy" No. 1 Co.

WANTED, March 18, 25, Easter, and April 22.
Once or twice nightly.
CHARLES MACDONA,
29a, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 2.

Charles Macdona's "Pygmalion" Principal Company.

WANTED, Feb. 25, March 4, 11, and Easter.
Complete production carried.
Once nightly only.
CHARLES MACDONA,
29a, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 2.

JOSEPH MILLANE'S COMPANIES.
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JOSEPH MILLANE'S COMPANIES.
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JOSEPH MILLANE'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, Dec. 31.
Wanted, Dec. 31.
Wanted, Dec. 31.

"SOMEWHERE A VOICE IS CALLING."
"CONFESSIONS OF A WIFE."
"HER DAY OF RECKONING."
"WHEN THE HEART IS YOUNG."

Wanted, Dec. 31.
Wanted, Dec. 31.
Wanted, Dec. 31.
Wire. Wire. Wire.

Wanted, Jan. 7 and on, with exceptions.

This Company can play one, two, three, or four weeks.
Refer any theatre visited.

"HER DAY OF RECKONING."
Special Spring Tour.

Wire for Dec. 31.
Wire for Dec. 31.
Wire for Dec. 31.

VINCENT W. CARLYLE,
Sole representative.
This, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
Next, Empire, Mountain Ash.

J. C. CARLYLE'S TOUR
of Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's
Artistic and Financial Success,
"BACK HOME IN TENNESSEE."
"BACK HOME IN TENNESSEE."
Written by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley in her best style.
Another big week last at Hippo., Stockport, in spite of weather and revue opposition.
"BACK HOME IN TENNESSEE."

WANTED, Jan. 14, Jan. 14, Jan. 14, Jan. 14, Jan. 14, Jan. 14, Jan. 14,
March 4 and Easter.
J. C. CARLYLE, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Next Royal, Wolverhampton.

BROMLEY CHALLENOR
will send on tour
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD,"
Now playin gto enormous business at the KINGSWAY THEATRE.

WANTED, Jan. 14, 21, and Easter.
All comms. to Kingsway Theatre, London.

WANTED, First-class Theatre for Easter Week,
"Bella Donna,"
Including Miss Georgina Wynter as Bella Donna.
Apply, ARTHUR GIBBONS, Walter House, Strand, W.C.

Horsfield and Woodward's Companies.

"THE MISLEADING LADY."
WANTED, Dec. 31 and April 1.

"WANTED A HUSBAND."
(The successful farce from the Playhouse.)
Wanted, Dec. 31 and April 1.

"WITHIN THE LAW."
Wanted, Dec. 31 and April 1.

"ALADDIN" (Red Co.).
A gorgeous twice-nightly pantomime.
Wanted, for Jan. 14 (to follow Penge and Richmond).
Also Jan. 21.
"ALADDIN" (Blue Co.).
Wanted, Jan. 21.

All communications
102, Charing Cross-rd., W.C.
'Phone, Regent 5780.

"Alias Jimmy Valentine."
WANTED, Christmas.
Wanted, Christmas.
Wanted, Christmas.
Can Change Bill.
LAURENCE, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

James Kiddie's Pantomime.
"Babes in the Wood."
Fourth season, and running Opera House, Woolwich.

WANTED, Jan. 21.
owing to manager keeping in pencil while he shifted a date, which he found was impossible. No objection to follow another pantomime or two.
Theatre or music hall.
Once or twice nightly.
Shares preferred.
Address, JAMES KIDDIE, 45, Brookhill-road, Woolwich, S.E.

LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.
"A BOY'S BEST FRIEND."
"A BOY'S BEST FRIEND."
"A BOY'S BEST FRIEND."

WANTED, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
A story written around the Yuletide.
Printing ready.
Wire, Wire,
LEILA ZILLWOOD, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

ERA ANNUAL.
50th (Jubilee) Year of Publication.
Among the special features are the following:—
"Romantic Plays in the Future."
By Doris Keane.
"Do Audiences Know Too Much."
By Weedon Grossmith.
Book your Advertising Space at once, before it is too late.

For other Theatres Wanted, see Displayed Wanted Section.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Aristocratic Actress for Old Lady parts in Comedies. E. DARE, Opera House, Torquay.

WANTED, Tall, Fair, Young Actress, for Regina in "Ghosts."
LEIGH LOVEL, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Juvenile, Soubrette, few Chorus Ladies, Revue; open Monday. Apply to-day, 12, MANAGER, 77, New Oxford-street. Geo. Lawrie write.

WANTED, entire Company, to open in a new town, Monday next, for Stock. Four pieces weekly. Terms, &c., MANAGER,
Palace, Barnoldswick.

Will H. Glaze's Tours.
WANTED, to rehearse at once, Comedian and Character Man.
ALFRED D. ADAMS,
T.R., Seaham Harbour.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for "Peaches" Revue, Ingenue, soprano, also Comedy Mother and Chorus Ladies. Apply, Office 21, 26, Charing Cross-road, Friday, 12 o'clock.

WANTED at once, Tour with Revue, Conductor, Juvenile Lead (baritone or tenor), also Comedian and Double Turn (musical and dance preferred, ladies). Apply, particulars, THORNE-DOOLEY, 9, Calicott-court, Calcott-road, Brondesbury, N.W. 6.

WANTED, Ladies with voices for Quartette in Revue; long tour, open at once. McELROY, Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Gentleman, to play Character Comedy part; Gentleman to play Responsible part. Terms, references, &c., NORMAN V. NORMAN, Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, W.C. (Letters only.)

WANTED, Juvenile Heavy Man, E. Vivian Edmonds' Repertoire Co.
Rehearse immediately.
E. V. EDMONDS,
Theatre Royal, Castleford.

WANTED, Robust Leading Man for Lyn Harding's part in "Wild Heather." Apply by letter only to HUBERT WOODWARD, 102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Two refined Drawing-room Acts to work in Musical Play. Instrumental or high-class Vocal Harmonic turns preferred. Open Gainborough next Monday. Write fully, K. H. AAEN, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

The Leonard Laurence Repertoire Co.
WANTED, to rehearse next week, Strong Character Actor, Juvenile Man, Light Comedy Actor, also Tall, Powerful Young Actress, capable of pathos and comedy. Scenic Artist, for a few weeks. Terms, photographs, full particulars, LEONARD LAURENCE, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

"Alias Jimmy Valentine" Co.
WANTED, Artistes in all lines including Actors for parts of Red Jocelyn (juvenile crook part) and Handler (warden of prison). LEONARD LAURENCE, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, tall, thin Character Actor. Also short, Robust Man.
Apply, FRED KARNO,
42, Cranbourn-st., W.C. 2.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Partner for really funny comedy revue; excellent parts for either if desired. Box 2,001, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman for the part of Oswald in "Ghosts." Age, height, terms, particulars and references to LEIGH LOVEL, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Light Comedian, to open at once, for town. Call, MAYFAIR VARIETY AGENCY, 43, Dover-street, Piccadilly.

WANTED, Tall, Smart Chorus Ladies with voices; long tour; rehearse at once. McELROY, Theatre, Widnes.

William Henshall's Productions.
WANTED, Chorus Ladies with good voices and appearance, fair dancers, height about 5ft. 4in. Long engagement. Apply, with song, Wednesday morning, at 12 o'clock, Cranbourn-chambers, over Leicester-square Station.

WANTED, refined Chorus Ladies. Long, comfortable engagement. Photos. and details to CHARLES CARDOW, King's, Kilmarnock; next, Palace, Doncaster.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy, Tall Chorus Ladies; long tour; must have good voices. Call Wednesday, at 4.30, "The Horns," Kennington.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies and Dancers, immediate work. Call, audition, PERCY HALL, Percy-street, W.C., 1 p.m. to-day.

WANTED, Chorus and Dancers, for new production.
Box 778, "The Era."

WANTED, Chorus Girls, smart, good looking, and experienced, for West End productions, revues, musical comedy, &c. Apply M. Y. OLNEY, Stage Door, London Hippodrome, 12 noon and 5.15 all this week.

WANTED, for Messrs. Cory and Sennoi's Revue,
"ENTRE NOUS."
Tall Chorus Ladies, Sopranos and Contraltos; also a Dancer.
Call with song, 12 o'clock, Thursday morning,
Chandos Hall, Chandos-st., W.C.

WANTED, smart Quartette or Trio of Dancers for Revue; must be good. Wire, McELROY, Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, good Chorus Ladies; good voice and appearance. Photo. and lowest terms, HENRY L. OSMOND, T.R., Bury.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies.
Apply HERBERT, Stage Door, this week, Theatre Royal, Bury, Lancs; next week, Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, for Touring Revues, experienced Singing and Dancing Girls for Chorus.
Apply, M. Y. OLNEY, Stage Door, London Hippodrome, 12 noon and 5.15 all this week.

WANTED, to open immediately, Smart Dancers for Revue. Dancers. Dancers. Also Chorus Ladies; must have good voices. Full particulars, with photo. (returned), to MORRISON, 34, Warren-avenue, Milton, Portsmouth.

WANTED, good Buck Dancer, youth or rejected man. J. MILTON, 109, Brook-st., Kennington-rd., London.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED Known, W. THORP, M.C.-lib.; late R. Courtneidge's Productions, "Arcadians," &c. 115, Auckland-hill, West Norwood, S.E.

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS WANTED.

TEIGNMOUTH, SOUTH DEVON.
WANTED, Applications for the Exclusive right of giving Concerts from the Concert Pavilion on the Sea Front during the Season 1918.
Particulars of the undersigned, to whom applications are to be delivered by Saturday, Dec. 31, 1917.
A. PERCIVAL DELL,
Clerk to the Council,
Town Hall,
Teignmouth.
Dec. 4, 1917.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, good Acting Manager for Pantomime. Terms and references, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Pantomime Artistes, to rehearse at once; Fairy Queen, Comedian, a Baritone, Tenor, or Bass Vocalist; also 20 Chorus Ladies. Long tour. Wire or write lowest terms and particulars to BARRETT, Grand Theatre, Halifax, Yorks.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Knockabout Comedian, to rehearse at once; Broker's Man. Wire,
MORTON POWELL,
Theatre, Merthyr Tydfil.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, rehearse immediately, open Monday next, first-class Pantomime, Revue to follow. Also first-class Wardrobe Mistress. Call, HARRY BENET'S AGENCY, 3, Piccadilly (entrance 1st door Shaftesbury-ave.).

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, join at once, for W. PARDOE'S Pantomime, and Revue to follow.
Apply personally.

Wire or write, Grapes Hotel, Yorkshire-st., Oldham.
Production Monday, Grand T., Oldham.

WANTED, Fairy Queen, good voice; also Basso or Baritone or Tenor and Chorus Ladies, to rehearse at once. Send lowest to BARRETT, Grand Theatre, Halifax, Yorkshire.

WANTED, for Pantomime,
Chorus Ladies,
Chorus Ladies,
Chorus Ladies,
Chorus Ladies,
Dancers,
Dancers,
Dancers,
Dancers,
To rehearse to-morrow.
Wire, MORTON POWELL,
Theatre Royal, Merthyr Tydfil.

WANTED, smart Chorus Ladies, rehearse immediately; long Pantomime tour with Revue to follow. Call or write, Those known, wire,
WM. DE-LACY,
Metropole Theatre, Bootle, Liverpool.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Panto. or Revue, Bert Lauraine, knockabout eccentric comedian; 3 years prin. comedian, "Would You Believe It?" revue; thanks for previous offers and inquiries; still vacant. Coms., LAURAINE, 14, Shakespeare-villas, Nottingham.

WANTED Known, FRED POLLARD. Disenq. Panto. or Revue; own songs; Dame or Hebrew. FRED POLLARD, Shenton-st., Leicester.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Beginners, Amateurs, those wishing to take up stage (all branches) or cinema. Everything supplied. Advice free. Dancing taught; private tuition; children prepared. Write, WARD, 155, Willesden-lane, Brondesbury, N.W.

WANTED, by WILLIAM PEARCE, the well-known Manager and Author-Composer, Beginners, to train immediately for theatres, music halls, &c.; good salaries; learn in spare time; lessons by post. Write, 23, Colet Gardens, W. Kensington W. 14.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a Business Manager, for a few weeks, for Toto. Terms, references MARK BLOW, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, for Assistant Business Management and play small parts; typist preferred. Full particulars (letters only), N. V. NORMAN, Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, W.C.

WANTED, Assistant Managers required for first-class Variety Halls in Provinces and Scotland; must be good at clerical work, and have unimpeachable references. Write fully to Moss Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-street, W.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a First-class Carpenter for "Annie Laurie." Full particulars, SIDNEY ANDREWS,
Hippodrome, Airdrie.

WANTED, immediately, for Suburban Pantomimes, Two Good Carpenters and Wardrobe Mistress; also a few vacancies for Chorus Girls. Apply personally to HORSFIELD and WOODWARD, 102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Carpenter, to join first-class Touring Revue, immediately; play small part. Apply, personally, J. W. & Co., 26, Charing Cross-rd.

WANTED at once, a first-class Biller; steady man need only apply. Wire or write terms, &c., to MANAGER, Coliseum, Long Eaton, Notts.

WANTED, Doorsmen and Attendants, evenings only. Also smart girls as cashiers. Apply, ALLIES' BAZAAR, 333 to 337, Mare-street, Hackney, London, E. 8.

WANTED, at once, Money Takers. Apply (with references), MANAGER, Stoll Picture Theatre, Kingsway, W.C. 2.

WANTED Known, W. C. BURNS.
Vacant, management, any line; years' practical exper; life abstainer; excep. personality; motorist; select refs; expert Press and advertising. 515, New City-rd., Glasgow

WANTED, Engt., by GEO. DARBEY, Baggage, Small Parts, &c. Discharged soldier. Can join immediately. Lowest, 50s. 5, Butler-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Evening Employment, Stage Hand or Attendant; strong, willing; ineligible. FARLEY, 4, Osterley-rd., Stoke Newington, N.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, an experienced Musical Director (pianist or useless), to open at once. Apply, with full particulars, and absolute lowest terms in first letter,
HARRY UGAR,
This Hippodrome, Margate.
Next, Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

WANTED, First-class Musical Director (Pianist), for tour, a few first-class Chorus Ladies, and also a smart, experienced Singing Soubrette, with experience in high-class companies. Apply personally to MR. A. BINGHAM, Messrs. Horsfield and Woodward, 102, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Smart Conductor at once for Revue.
McELROY, Theatre, Widnes.

McCall's Orchestras.
WANTED, for first-class twice nightly Cinema, experienced Pianist-Conductor; one able to double with Clarinet or other instrument preferred; Solo Violin (Leader), 'Cello, and Solo Cornet; permanency; open Dec. 31 or Jan. 8. Terms, age, and refs., J. McCALL, M.D., 219, Grimsby-road, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Pianist Conductor, small orchestra, pictures and variety. Full particulars, references, &c., MUSICUS, Hippodrome, Gloucester. (Not for this hall.)

WANTED, Repetiteur Violin (Lady), for Cinema Theatre, in London; good salary; one day off a week. MISS LAUGHTON, 35, Cloudesdale-rd., Balham. 'Phone: Streatham 950.

WANTED,
Violinist (rep.), lady or gent.
Must be good player.
MANAGER,
Palace, Bedford.

WANTED Immediately, Repetiteur Pianist, College Organist. Must be good sight reader. Call after 2.30, or write, MAT GROSSMAN, Electric Pavilion, Tooting, S.W.

IMPORTANT.

OWING to the Christmas Holidays, the next issue of "The Era" will be published on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28th. Advertisements must reach the Publisher not later than MONDAY, DECEMBER 24th. The insertion of Advertisements received later than this cannot be guaranteed.

WANTED, experienced Stage Manager, to combine general understudy; must be young, experienced, and accustomed to handle first-class musical companies. Apply personally to MR. A. BINGHAM, 102, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Army Service Corps
Expeditionary Force Canteens.
WANTED Known, Vacancies for Operator - Electricians, Shorthand Typists, Electrical and Mechanical Engineers: The following are eligible:—
Men over military age in any category if physically fit; men in categories B2, C2, B3, C3, or Grade 2, Grade 3.
Men attached to the above will receive pay as follows:—Single men, 30s. per week, with uniform, quarters and rations.
Married men, 35s. per week, with uniform, quarters and rations.
Apply, enclosing copies of references, to E. F. C. (Cinema Section), 143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Electrician for West End Theatre.
Must be thoroughly competent and ineligible. Box 767, "The Era."

WANTED, Chief Electrician, for the Tower, Morecambe; must be fully qualified man used to doing all repairs to wiring, dynamos, &c.; knowledge of gas engines and producer plant an advantage. References and salary required to MANAGER, Tower, Morecambe.

WANTED, immediately, Staff for Small Variety and Picture Hall, Hounslow, near London, Operator-Electrician, used to generator, doorman-biller-handyman, girl money taker, girl ushers, stage hands, artistes (cheap); all lines; small stage; urgent; open Dec. 24. Write full particulars, terms, &c., Box 776, "The Era."

WANTED, a non-eligible practical Stage Carpenter, electrician also, able to operate and capable of taking entire charge of back of house and heating apparatus, &c.; permanency for right man. Apply, stating wages, MANAGER, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

WANTED, Carpenter (resident), bench hand, also Property Man. Age, references, salary, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

Grand Opera House,
Middlesbrough.
WANTED, a Stage Carpenter (ineligible). Terms and references. To a suitable man a long, comfortable engagement. Particulars to J. CHAS. IMESON, as above.

WANTED, to open Dec. 24 or later date, Repetiteur Solo Cornet and Drummer. Salary, &c., to M. D., Palace, Reading.

WANTED, Good Repetiteur, experienced Variety, for Midlands. MIDLAND COUNTIES' ORCHESTRA SUPPLY, Grantham.

WANTED, Good Repetiteur (male), able to lead, occasionally, for West-End restaurant, afternoon and eve.; open Dec. 30. Apply by letter, terms, refs., &c., M. D., 30 Elm-grove, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Leader, First Violin, for Lyceum Theatre, Newport, Mon. SIGNOR LA CANERA, Mus. Dir., Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

WANTED, First-class Leader for provincial variety hall. Permanent engagement to suitable person. Terms, £3 per week. Matinées, half salary. Open Dec. 24. Refs. and all pars. to
Box 768, "The Era."

Coliseum, Barrow-in-Furness.
WANTED, to open early as possible, first-class Leader, pictures, 6.30 to 10.30, and daily matinée (no Sunday). Terms, refs., and full particulars, to ROUTLEDGE, Coliseum, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, First-class Leader, Violinist, 'Cellist, and Pianist, for West-End Café. Call personally. M. D., 12, Archer-street, W. 1.

WANTED, First-class Leader, also Viola, for the Palace, Walthamstow, to open Mon., Dec. 24. State experience and references. JOHN HOLMAN, 51, Morrison-avenue, Tottenham, N. 15.

WANTED, Leader and First Violin, open Mon. Varieties, twice nightly and one mat. Pars., SNELL, M.D., Hippo., Cheltenham.

WANTED, experienced Violin Leader for Varieties. Refs., terms, first letter; perm. eng. G. A. DREW, 22, Lennox-st., Weymouth.

WANTED, Leader 'Cellist and Pianist for Christmas Day and 31st inst. London hotel. Change of address. QUEENIE HOWARD, Roland Studios, 43, Roland-gardens, South Kensington.

WANTED, competent Leader, 'Cello, Pianist, Flute and Trombone, to commence at once. Wire, HORNER, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, expert Violin Leader, with library. Evenings only. Call immediately, with violin, Empire Cinema, Greenwich, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Cinema, Nottingham, season of 4 weeks, Violin-Leader, 'Cello, and Bass, also for Cardiff, Leader and Drums; ladies or gents.; open at once. Call or write, Wednesday (to-day), after 12, E. J. PARKER, Holloway Empire, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, a Leader Violinist, Repetiteur, 'Cellist, Orchestral Pianist, and Organist for London cinema. Only first-class players need apply. Letters only, M. B., 53, Philpot-street, E. 1.

WANTED, good Leader and good First Violin, for pantomime season. Apply, with terms and particulars, MANAGER, Kennington Theatre, S.E. 11.

WANTED, Musicians for First-class Variety Halls.
Finsbury Park Empire, 1st Violinist.
Liverpool Empire, 1st Cornet Player.
Must be experienced in high-class Variety (A.M.U.). Write, enclosing copies references, &c., to the ACTING MANAGER, at the theatre named.

AMITY PALACE OF VARIETIES,
Poole, Dorset (nr. Bournemouth).
WANTED, Violinist for the above Hall; must be experienced in Variety and Pictures; evenings only; no Sunday work. Apply, stating lowest terms and refs., to BERT. WHEELER, M.D.

WANTED, Violin, 'Cello, Flute, Clarionet, Bassoon, for first-class Provincial Cinema Orchestra. Terms to CHAS. KEETON, Town Hall, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, Lady Violiniste, Christmas night; Cinema, Peckham. Call Thursday morning, or write R. S., 5, Cumberland-mans., West End-lane, Hampstead.

WANTED, Violinist, Pianiste, Organiste, 'Cellists, London and South Coast. Write, 156, Knight's Hill, West Norwood.

WANTED, to open Dec. 24 at Colwyn Bay, for 2 weeks, Cornet, Trombone, Flute, and Drums; also 2 Violins, 'Cello and Bass for 3 months; Ladies or Gents. Wire terms, COOPER, Grand Theatre, Rhyl.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Cornet Player, for afternoons only, for town. Apply, MADAME MAY WALTER, 3, Macclesfield-st., Shaftesbury-ave., W.C.

WANTED, Monday next, for fortnight (pantomime), good Cornet, Trombone, Flute and 'Cello. HORACE TEAGUE, Mus. Dir., Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, at once. Tenor. Hora Player, able to double Trombone.
Apply, with full particulars, to LEO CUD. This, Palace, Camberwell, S.E.
Next, Hippo., Willesden.

NEW THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, Musicians for Monday, Dec. 24, Clarionet, Drums, Bass, Trombone; permanency. Apply, Trenchard Theatre.

WANTED Clarinet and Trombone (either sex) for Midland Theatre, Manchester; good terms. Write or wire, W. W., St. Stephen's-avenue, West Ealing.

WANTED, D. Bass, Cinema (Walsall) immediately, £2 10s.; perm. to exp. player. Wire, CONDUCTOR, 14, Vicarage-place, Walsall.

WANTED, Double Bass and 'Cellist for town near Birmingham; open immediately; Lady or Gentleman. Apply,
MADAME MAY WALTER,
3, Macclesfield-st., Shaftesbury-ave., W.C.

King's Theatre, Greenock.
WANTED, good Trombone over-season engagement to suitable man; quick terms. Apply, to-night, BROTHERS WRIGHT.

WANTED, for the Kursaal, Harrogate, Picture Season, a 'Cellist (lady or gentleman); two performances daily. Apply to GENERAL MANAGER.
DE WOLFE,
157 Wardour-street, W. 1.
Gerrard 3623.

WANTED, for South Coast hydro hotel, a 'Cellist for two weeks, to open Thursday next; lady or gentleman; four guineas per week; fare paid both ways.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, a competent Viola Player, for the above, to open Jan. 14; permanency to suitable man. State terms, age, and experience to MUS. DIR.

WANTED, for January, for Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, ex. Viola, 'Cello, and Violin Players as Cadet Servants; must be ineligible. For particulars, apply BANDMASTER.

WANTED, Viola Player, experienced Variety, for Midlands. MIDLAND COUNTIES' ORCHESTRA SUPPLY, Grantham.

WANTED, for Palace, Grimsby, an experienced Flautist and Oboeist; must be accustomed to variety business. References to MUS. DIR.

WANTED immediately, for continuous Cinema, efficient Pianist and Organist; six hours' playing daily; terms, three guineas each for qualified players. Apply, MANAGER, Empire, Derby.

DE WOLFE,
157, WARDOUR-STREET, W. 1.
GERRARD 3623.
WANTED, Orchestral and Solo Organist (pedal). Solo Cornet and Tympanist, Violinists, 'Cellists, Bass Players, for town and provinces. Immediate engagements available.

WANTED, for first-class Picture House, Organist, 'Cellist, Pianist.
Apply, B. DENT,
36, St. Mary's Gate, Derby.

WANTED, Lady Orch.-Pianiste, Var. and Pics.; open immediately; experienced. Apply, MISS TRAINER, Palace, Redcar.

WANTED, Pianist; play with band or alone. Theatre, pictures, &c. HORACE TEAGUE, Mus. Dir., Town Hall, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist, good sight reader, used to pictures and variety; 5½ hours daily. Apply, with references, to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Regent Theatre, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, at once, good Pianist and 'Cellist, Pictures and Variety. Empire, Rugby.

WANTED, Drummer for Theatre and Gardens, Lady or Gentleman. DEARLOVE, Theatre, Harrogate.

WANTED, Drummer (either sex) for Midland Theatre, Manchester; good terms. Write or wire, W. W., 16, St. Stephen's-avenue, West Ealing.

WANTED, Double Drummer for permanency.
A.M.U. terms.
Address,
HENRY HARE, Opera House, Dunfermline

WANTED, Musicians, all kinds, for West-End Circuit; audition any morning. ABBOTT'S AGENCY, 47, Uxbridge-rd., Shepherd's Bush.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, to open Monday; or earliest, good Violinist and Pianist, for orchestra in good-class cinema; permanent or year round engagement to competent performers. Apply, DRAPER, Broadway Kinema, Peterborough.

WANTED, Drummer, to commence Dec. 24 A.M.U. terms. SYKES, M. D., Royal Court Theatre, Wigan.

Lytham and St. Annes.
WANTED Known, Musicians (ladies or gentlemen) contemplating entering into engagements for Lytham and St. Anne's Council Bands next season are requested to communicate at once with Mr. J. AINLEY, District Secretary, A.M.U., 16, Ferguson-rd., Blackpool.

WANTED, KNOWN,
ABBOTT'S ORCHESTRAL SCHOOL.
FINEST TRAINING SCHOOL.
In London for Violinistes and Pianistes who wish to become Leaders. Musicians with or without experience should join ABBOTT'S SCHOOL.
A thorough training in Orchestral Organ Playing.
12 Lessons, £1 1s.
Classes daily. Also Thursday evening, 6.30 till 9.30.
APPOINTMENTS FOUND.
Prospectus from 47, Uxbridge-rd., Shepherd's Bush.

MUSIC ON HIRE.
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WANTED, Engagement by Solo Cornet, experienced in Theatre and Variety; lib. Dec. 31. W. R., 25, Catherine-st., Reading.

WANTED Known, Cornet. Disengaged Christmas week; any bus.; orchestral or military; theatre or variety. Musician GREEN, R.M.C., Camberley.

WANTED, few nights a week or Deputy (Cornet, A.M.U.). Address, BANDSMAN C. SHARP, E.C.L.C., C. Co., Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED Known, Solo Cornet and Trumpet, liberty on 30th inst. Good offers only. Pav. Orch., Llandudno.

WANTED Known, Clarinettist, can deputise, this week. Apply, CLARINET, 124, Devonshire-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Christmas engagement by exp. D. Bass, Dec. 22, Jan. 5; hotel preferred. LIDBETTER, 29, Parkfield-road, Willesden, N.W. 10.

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WANTED, Engagement in London by Lady Orchestral Pianiste, cinema experience. MISS RIGBY, 13, Dalrymple-road, Brockley, S.E.

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PALACE, BEXLEY.
PALACE PIER, ST. LEONARDS.
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WAREHAM.
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HURDCOTT.
SUTTON VENEY.
CODFORD.
Write, Wire, or Call Immediately.

WANTED, First-class Variety Turns in all lines, for Monday next, and onward. Apply, MANAGER, Hippo., Pontycymmer, S. Wales.

Compliments of the Season.
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WANTED, Big Specialities, Novelties, Animal Acts, Juvenile Troupes, &c., for the following dates:—
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Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, all lines, Monday next and on. Must be new to Skipton. Terms &c., "EXPERT," Barnoldswick.

WANTED, Variety Acts of every description, to open Monday and on. State full particulars to ALBANY WARD, Guildhall Chambers, Weymouth.

WANTED, Specialities. Panto. and Var. Theatres, a 3-handed dumb act. Wire for Monday, GEO. AYTOUN'S AGENCY, 7, Prima-rd., Brixton, S.W. Wire, "Antics," London.

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WANTED, Jan. 7, 14, TINA PAYNOLA, the Unique Mimic of Instruments, Animals, Babies, Whistling (any size stage). 6-sheets and throwaways. Returns into 1922. This, Emp., Kingston. Next, Gran., Walham Gn. (3rd ret.). No sole agent.

WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, to precede Plymouth, by JEAN BRODIE, the Winsome Scot, in Song and Dance. Wire, Hippo., Cheltenham.

WANTED, Monday next, MINNIE YORKE, Chic Comedienne and Eccentric Dancer. Voice and appearance. YORKE, Grand, Nottingham.

WANTED, by JESTERINA, versatile comedienne, Monday. All coms., 84, Wellington-rd., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, New Year week, also Jan. 7, FLORINA CODY, Canadian Rifle Shot, and Assistants, introducing "Human Target." Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydvil.

WANTED, Monday next, Dec. 24, MARGARET BRIERLEY, expert instrumentalists. Wire, Royal Electric, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, 21, by the Charming and Talented SISTERS WEBB (Tina and Inga).
Dec. 24, Pal., Salisbury.
All coms., JO JO WEBB,
36, Dalhousie-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Mon. next, and 31st, by WILL BURTON, facial comedian and eccentric dancer. Wire, Empire, Southend.

WANTED Known, JAAP VAN LAREN wishes you a Happy Christmas. Dec. 17, Grand, Walsall. Next, Dec. 24, Hip., Southampton.

WANTED, Monday, Dec. 24, and Dec. 31, NEGUS, the London Rag Picker, in his great Continental Speciality.
5, Rosslyn-house, Rushcroft-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Dec. 24, by COVERDALE, The Cute Chatterbox, and "Sand-Sack Stitchers" Singer. Wires, 23, Burton-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by WAL and ROSA, Monday, also 31st, Jan. 7, 14, novel comedy Patter Act. This, Tivoli, Dublin. Wire.

WANTED, Dec. 31, &c., THE MELFORDS (Lady and Gent.), Eccentric Dancers. This, Tiv., Dublin. Next, G., Bolton. Thanks Messrs. Kenyon, Hyman, Shayler's Agency, for contracts. Note.—Gent discharged!

WANTED, Monday and New Year, TORIE and POWELL, in their artistic vocal and musical scena, originators of the greatest musical novelty in vaudeville, entitled, "Hidden Harmony." Wire, Electric Palace, Cresswell, Mansfield.

WANTED Known RHODE and ROCHE, "The Lizard's Nest," "Cat and Speciality." Hippo., Ilford, Essex. Write for vacant dates.

WANTED Known, BROS. WEBB, Season 1917-18.
Hengler's Circus, Glasgow.
Season's compliments to all.

WANTED, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, by BARNARD and BUNNY, Novelty Comedy Speciality Act. This, Hippo., Lowestoft. Next, Garrick T., Hereford. Compliments of the season to all friends.

WANTED, for the great laughter maker, "The Collar Stud" (Lily Roselle and Co.). Dec. 24, to precede Palace, Plymouth. Wire, BARTLETT, Albany, Dumfries.

WANTED, by MADAME ZILLAH'S JUVENILES, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, on, with exceptions. Wire, Grand, Kidderminster. 24, Grand Old Hill, Staff.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Feb. 11, various on, for LILIAN BEAUMONT'S screaming sketch, "Sally Mine." This, 134, Lambeth-rd., London. Next, Court Theatre, Berkhampstead.

The Inimitable Dame Scena Success, "Getting the Dinner In," written by John Brittain. 3 Artistes. 15 minutes' merriment.
WANTED, New Year's Week (Dec. 31), to follow Varieties, Leeds, and precede Court Theatre, Warrington.
POWELL-BRITTAIN, Grand, Gravesend; next, City Varieties, Leeds (return).

WANTED, Jan. 21, North only, by the ROYAL TOKIWA FAMILY, Genuine Japanese Artistes, introducing most sensational feats, including incomparable Little Matsu and Masa, and with gorgeous set of scenery, gold embroidery on satin; also wardrobe. This, 55, Leopold-st., Birmingham. Next, Empire Theatre, Smethwick.

WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, ALBERT, Ventriloquist, and his Novel Electric Dancing Figure. Dec. 24, Palace, Redditch; this, 10, Naylor-road, London, S.E. 15.

WANTED, Monday next, for SALASKO, the great Globe Equilibrist, Juggler, Balancer, Hat Spinner, &c. Big success this week Coliseum, Long Eaton. Wire offers for Monday next for a sure success. Address as above.

WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21, by ENARDO BROS., great Italian Equilibrists and Gymnasts in Mid-air, a real clean and clever act with draw. Secure this act. Wire, this, Princess Theatre, Horwich, Lancs.

LES PLATAS,
Spanish Acrobats and Tumblers.
WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 7, on the way to Gateshead. This week, Palace, Glossop. Wire for Monday next.

Vacant, Dec. 24.
WANTED, by MLLE. DONNIE FOSSETT'S Speciality Act, Miniature Circus, Performing Pony, Dogs, and Acrobaitc Ogust; date between London and Sunderland preferred. All coms., 4/7, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

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T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

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SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.

WANTED, first-class attractions only for weeks of June 3 and 10.
TO PLAY ONCE NIGHTLY.
The Shakespeare is *"THE"* Popular Theatre of Liverpool—The Box Office says so.

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New Farce-Comedy in 3 Acts by
ELIOT STANNARD,
from the original of E. P. Clift and Herbert Darnley.
Produced by Claud Vernon.

Produced last week rapturous success.
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This Week at
T.R. Brighton.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Owing to the impossibility of securing a West-End Theatre for this play it has been decided to book a run of six or eight dates from Dec. 31.

Brilliant cast, headed by MARY BROUGH

Write or 'phone { Hishin, 27, Shaftesbury Avenue. Gerrard 5332.

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THE CRACK REVUE
The Finest Combination of Talent Touring. All Recognised and Competent Artistes.
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AND A REAL BEAUTY CHORUS.
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Booked at Theatre Royal, Woolwich, in preference to Pantomime, for Xmas and New Year weeks, commensing Boxing Day.
VACANT,
JANUARY 7, 14, 28
(South or Midlands).
FEBRUARY 4, 11
MARCH 4, 11, 18, 25
HARRY UGAR
This: Hippodrome, Margate.
Next T.R., Woolwich. Ten nights.

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NEW DRESSES. NEW SCENERY.
Music Hall or Twice Nightly Theatre Dates Wanted for Spring Tour.
All communications to
NASSAU HOUSE,
122, Shaftesbury Avenue,
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WANTED, DEC. 24 & 31
FOR
SAY WHEN!
The Revenue Revue.
Presented in Five New Scenes.
Cast includes—
Harrie Fawn, Arthur Carvey, Elsie Male, Madge Beaumont, "Say When!" Girls, Peter & Potts, &c.
Thanks—Tom Pacey, Newark, W. Cook, Bury St. Edmunds, and others for kind remarks re show.
A Riot last week. Refer Mr. Meade, Manager. Picturedrome, Newark. This—Tivoli, Manchester (Returrn). Wire—Hawkins, Hippodrome, Peterborough.

WILL H. GLAZE'S TOURS.
THE VOICE ON THE 'PHONE
(Blackmail)
WANTED, DEC. 31, JAN. 7, &c.
A SON OF THE SEA.
WANTED, JAN. 14, FEB. 4, 11, 18, &c.
Both Plays by Clifford Rean.
HIS MOTHER'S ROSARY.
By Eva Elwes.
WANTED, DEC. 31, JAN. 21, 28, FEB. 11 & on.
Wire—Alfred D. Adams, T. R. Seaham Harbou

HORACE HODGES
IN
"GRUMPY."
EIGHTH TOUR commences JAN. 21
All Coms., Walter D. NICOLL,
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WANTED, DEC. 24 & 31
FOR
HOW ARE YER?
A Fraternal Greeting in Four Shakes.
Featuring
JIMMIE WILSON (late Wheeler & Wilson), Alma Roma, Nona Dixie, Fred Taylor, Burton Scarlette, Arthur Albert, Lillie Britton, &c.
Big Success last week, Tiv., Manchester (return). Many Thanks to Peel's Agency, Tom Pacey, J. Lever, Manchester, for dates. Also U.V.A., London; J. Lawrence, Leicester, &c., &c., for offers.
Wire for Dec. 24 or 31, to Hawkins, Hippodrome, Peterborough.

A ROYAL DIVORCE.
WANTED,
for this phenomenal attraction, weeks of FEB. 11 and APRIL 8.
The greatest play of modern times, which has revisited every city in the kingdom oftener than any other in the annals of the British stage and is always received with unbounded enthusiasm.
Recent takings:—
Birmingham, nearly £1,600.
Belfast (5 nights), over £900.
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Write immediately to
W. W. KELLY, New T.R., Birkenhead.
Wires to "Hustler," Birkenhead.

FRANK LINDO
AND
MARION WAKEFORD
IN THE GREAT PLAY,
"HOME, SWEET HOME."
The Drama that Appeals to All Classes.
WANTED—Good Theatres, Jan. 14, 21; Feb. 4, and various later.
All coms. FRANK LINDO, 47, Ackers Street, Manchester.

ANNIE LAURIE
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The Proved Success. Third Year of Tour. No Weeks Out.
Refer anywhere the Company has visited.
Returns everywhere beat original visits.
SCENERY AND DRESSES THE TALK OF EACH TOWN.
Beautiful Printing.
SHARES or CERTAINTY. THEATRES or MUSIC HALLS.
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Wire or write:—
DENVILLE, 32, Charlotte Street, OLDHAM.

WANTED,
CHRISTMAS WEEK,
CHAS. H. LESTER'S TERRIFIC SUCCESS
A MOTHER, BUT NOT A WIFE.
LAST WEEK AT DALSTON.
Biggest week's business since Theatre Reopened in August.
It's in the Play.
Other Vacancies, Dec. 31, Jan. 28, on.
CHAS. H. LESTER, Dec. 17, Palace, Gloster P.A., 5, Parliament St., Gloster.

PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

[Correspondents are urged kindly to send in with their next weeks reports a full list, with the name of the responsible resident manager, of the places of amusement in their districts. Cinema theatres, with an indication as to whether variety turns form part of the programme, should be included.]

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES. — P., Prince of Wales' Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. J. F. Grahm and Jno. Hart; M., Mr. W. J. Andrews.—We have a return visit at this house from one of Mr. Victor Lewis's companies in "Ghosts." The poignant dramatic quality of Ibsen's moving play is even now only imperfectly appreciated by the promiscuous theatre audience, but that is not for want of telling acting on the part of Misses Hilda Esty Marsh and Helen Temple, and Messrs. Percy Robinson, Henry Scratchard, and H. A. Young, who form the backbone of the cast at the Princes.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; A. M., Mr. J. Fred Watson.—The boisterous mirth of Mr. Reg. Fowler's musical comedy, "Don't Tempt Me!" furnishes an acceptable appetiser for the Christmas fare at the Bordesley Palace. The irrepressible Billy Fry is the principal comedian, and others in the cast include Hilda Mundy, Evie Lawrence, Tom Shenton, W. Etoil Le Noir, and Oscar Mansoliff, in speciality dances.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. H. J. Crane.—"The Kodak Girl," with a cast which includes such talented exponents of revue as Sydney de Vries, Jack Warman, Ernestine Casnere, Norah Guy, Willie Phillips, and Basil Grey, fills a large part of the bill at the Grand. Good turns are provided by such indiviualists as Will Van Allen and Harry Bedford; while the O'Mega Troupe do the balancing business to admiration.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. F. Raymond; Asst. M., Mr. Crisford Garton.—The Elgar Hudson Quintette have the place of honour at the Empire, and emphatically they make good. Armed with a pack of cards and a battery of clever patter, Claude Golden is heartily welcomed; while Cooper Mitchell, Sam Stern, Will Collinson, Lewis Douglas, and Cornalla and Eddie can all be depended upon for entertaining contributions.

GAIETY.—P., Mr. B. Kennedy; A. M., Mr. W. H. Hebden.—Marie Santoi and her compauny are here with the glowing revue, "Pearl of the Orient." Other features are the musical act of the Bros. Alden and the equilibrist exploits of Zeno.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. J. and W. E. Draysey; A. M., Mr. J. Draysey.—The Seven Nobodies give a diverting show. John McNully and Co. contribute a piquant little sketch; and attractive musical and character selections are given by Florence Rattray and Wilfred Burnand.

BOOTS, The Chemists, 52, New-street; 167, Broad-street; 100-101, Smallbrook-street; 266-288, Gooch-street; 171, Bloomsbury-street; 459, Moseley-road; Colmore-row and Bull-street.

LIVERPOOL.

SHAKESPEARE.—L. and M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King.—An unusual attraction is offered here in the shape of Mr. Syd Godfrey's Mohawk Moore and Burgess Minstrels, an altogether excellent combination who, on Monday evening, pleased a large and appreciative audience. Among the principals were Syd Godfrey, a mot amusing comedian, Joe Hudd (an old Sam Hague's man), J. H. Maxwell, Elsie May, the Six Shadow Dancers, Seth Whyte, Louis Ernest, and Regan and Celia.

ROTUNDA.—"Sinbad the Sailor" pantomime will open on Monday.

PLAYHOUSE.—On Saturday the season will start with "Fragments."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners.—Most of the bill is occupied by Karno's exceedingly funny sketch, "Nosey Knows," which on Monday evening afforded a big audience considerable amusement. Among the leading workers were George Hestor, "In the variety section of the bill were Les Trombetta, capital French comedy duettists; Marie Ambrose, vocalist; Will Hay, comedian; and Elsie Robey, comedienne.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Heading the programme are Ernest Krake and company in their diverting act, "The Electric Tram Conductor"; H. B. Hedley and Chas. Windish provide a good musical turn as pianist and violinist; Adkin and company have a smart ventriloquial scena; Jenkins Bros. are lively eccentrics; and others who contribute include Mollie Butler, dialect comedienne; Togo Banzai, upside-down instrumentalist; and Frances Kinders, vocalist and speciality dancer.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton.—The stage is occupied by Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," in which appear May Poulton (Crusoe), Eileen Wayne (Polly), Ford and Lewis (comedians), Billy Fielding (Dame), Bros. Lawn (comedians), the Walons (King and Queen), and Jim C. Max (Friday).

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; R. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole.—A change to variety is made this week, the list containing the names of Williams and Parker, comedy duo; Eileen and May Trio, with vocal, musical, and dancing act; Jack Clarke, comedian; Frank Stannert, musical comedian; Sybil Stewart, mimic and entertainer; the Nelsons, with speciality dancing act; Milton and Mora, in potpourri turn; and Le Hurst, ventriloquist.

GARSTON EMPIRE.—P., Garston Empire Theatre, Ltd.; L. and M., Mr. Bart Phœnix.—Messrs. Stanley Ravenscroft and James Wright's company are here in the musical farce, "The Girl from America." The artistes include the Misses Myra Eyton, Jennie Hayden, Fanny Wellesley, and Messrs. Henry Earlsmore, James Wright, Arnold Tolson, and Jack Stewart.

BOOTS The Chemists, Boots' Corner, Church-street; 11-13, London-road; 1, Leece-street; 203, Scotland-road; 8, West Derby-road; 235, Park-road; 113, Lodge-lane; 79, Wavertree-road; Prudential Buildings, Dale-street; 45 to 47, Lord-street.

MANCHESTER

HIPPODROME.—C. & M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. George F. Reynolds; Advertising M., Mr. D. Forbes Winslow.—The great Little Tich tops the bill with his usual success; "The Soul Kiss," a delightful musical and dancing fantasy, featuring Alfred Leonard, violinist, Bertha Pertina, expert dancer, and Ida Benson, a brilliant vocalist; J. H. Scotland scores in song, comedy and dialect; Pierce and Roslyn give a pleasing whirl of melody; and enjoyable items are also those of the Akebona Troupe of Japanese; Manuel Vega, in original comedy; Harry Freeman, comedian; and the Caron Troupe of Belgian, French, and Italian lady gymnasts.

TIVOLI.—L. & P., Mr. J. Lever; G. M., Mr. Frank Ashworth; R. M., Mr. J. T. Malpas.—Mr. Fred Hawkins presents here successfully "Say When," a capital show, with plenty of comedy. The company includes Harrie Fawn, Arthur Carvey, May Williams, Elsie May, and Peter and Potts.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. Winstanley. Mr. Andie Caine's excellent pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood," is the attraction here twice nightly.

BOOTS, The Chemists, 15, 17, and 19, St. Ann-street, St. Anne's-square; 48 and 50, Oldham-street; 39, Market-street.

"Remnant" on Tour.

The Royalty production, "Remnant," has been very successfully toured under the direction of Mr. Keith Kenneth, Miss Betty Fairfax having made a most favourable impression upon provincial playgoers by her delightful impersonation of Miette. She also enjoyed the advantage of an exceptionally strong supporting company, which on the last week of the tour played to over £1,050, every seat for the Saturday performance being sold by the preceding Wednesday morning.

"Old Vic.'s" Christmas Offering.

The contribution of the Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, to the Christmas plays will be a naval review of revues called "Seamen's Pie," by Russell and Sybil Thorndike and E. A. Ross, to be produced this evening. It will be preceded by Dickens's Christmas Carol, played by the Vic.'s repertoire company, and produced by Mr. Ben Greet.

Sir Frank Benson's Graceful Tribute.

Several hundred Tommies were entertained at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, by Sir Frank and Lady Benson in "The Taming of the Shrew," supported by a high-class concert party. During the interval "the boys" vociferated a hearty vote of thanks to Sir Frank and Lady Benson for their splendid efforts.

Responding, Sir Frank Benson said he felt it an honour to be called upon to reply to such a vote of thanks. He knew he was addressing a band of brothers who had done their very best and given their all. He asked them to accept this little tribute from himself and his wife. He had often said that the British soldier was the strongest, and yet the gentlest. He was also a very good comrade, and for good comrades their was no parting in life or death.

THE PIONEER PLAYERS.

On Sunday night, at the Criterion Theatre (by kind permission of Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore, by arrangement with Messrs. Herbert Jay and Anthony Ellis), the Pioneer Players opened their seventh season with a triple bill of one-act plays, all over the average in interest.

The first was

"KANAWA."

In a "poetical" prologue, spoken before the curtain, unfortunately not very intelligible to the audience, the author, Mr. Torashiko Khori—robed in Japanese dress—explained that "Kanawa" was a play of "ushinotoki - mairi" for marionettes. "Ushinotoki-mairi" is the spell put by the woman whose love is turned to hatred upon her faithless lover. For three-times-seven nights she goes, crowned with the triple-spiked iron "Kanawa" to a shrine, recites her incantations and mutters her curses, the while she beats with hammer-strokes an effigy of the man whose death she wills. The scene of the play shows the shrine of Myojin in the mountains near Kyo, the ancient capital of Japan some thousand years ago. The faithless "citizen of Kyo," feeling death upon him, comes for help to the holy Oracle of the shrine; uselessly, for this night the incantation is completed, and he falls dead to the sound of the triumphant laughter of the woman he had deserted. She gluts her vengeance at the cost of her own soul's loss. Her doom is to wander for ever over the mountains in the form of a witch. A moral lesson in a gruesome wrapping! The staging, by Miss Edith Craig and the author, full of suggestive and effective touches, cleverly created the necessary eerie, horrorful atmosphere. But the acting rather lacked force and conviction. Probably a robust Oriental hate is a thing that feebler-passioned Westerners have little idea of. Miss Ina Lowther, though she managed a blood-curdling laugh, rather suggested the naughtiness of a fairy-tale witch than the malignancy of the murderess. To Mr. Henry Oscar fell the difficult—almost impossible—task of spreading dying agonies effectively over half an hour or so. Mr. Cavendish Morton's utterances as the Oracle would have gained weight from a less spasmodic delivery. Mr. C. Wordley Hulse was good as a priest of the shrine.

This was followed by Mr. W. F. Casey's

"INSURRECTION."

The scene of the play is a house in Dublin at the time of the Sinn Fein rising in April, 1916. The author makes a courageous attempt to state fairly the present-day problem in Ireland. He puts before us a family of simple-hearted, loving, and lovable Irish people, representing as many different points of view, and shows them divided by dissensions, and finally torn asunder by death, yet still unshaken from their convictions. Mr. Casey offers no solution of the problem—rather he leaves us with a feeling that no solution is possible or probable. There is the ardent young "patriot," Philip Blake, of the "Ireland-for-the-Irish and anti-everything-English" type, a leader in the Sinn Fein movement. There is his brother James, an easy-going Home Ruler, and a loyalist captain in the British army, and his English wife Barbara. Then there is their mother, brought up on peaceful constitutional methods of opposition, yet ready to encourage Philip when the moment of struggle comes; and there is Philip's sweetheart, Norah O'Connell, a sort of embodied spirit of Sinn Fein. The events of Easter week bring death to both brothers. Philip is shot as a rebel, and James dies of a wound dealt by a Sinn Fein bullet. The play is powerfully written, and, on the whole, was powerfully played. The best bit of work was by Miss Una O'Connor, whose intensely "nervous" performance gave the impression that she was living, rather than acting, the part. Mr. Kenneth Kent's Philip was excellent, too, strong and well-balanced. Mr. Philip Anthony's Captain James would have gained from a closer acquaintance with the words, but the character was consistently suggested. Miss Iné Cameron made a pathetic figure of the mother, and Miss Joyce Carey played the sweet, serious English wife prettily. The author appeared at the close, and met with a "mixed" reception of claps and hisses, in which the latter rather over-balanced the former.

Gloom and tragedy were dispelled by the third play, "an almost historical comedicita," written, according to the programme, by "a Fellow of the Royal Literary Society," and entitled

"THE INCA OF PERUSALEM."

The "Fanny's First Play" sort of start, which introduced us to a wordy conflict in front of the curtain between an archdeacon and a too-expensive daughter, and the reverend gentleman's protesting exit via the stalls, left little room for doubt that the author "Fellow's" other names were George Bernard. Suspicion grew to certainty when the Inca of Perusalem turned out to be an "All-Highest" who talked to us—how he did talk!—brilliantly, amiably, maliciously, humorously, sometimes, it must be confessed, trivially. As only an All-Highest of Mr. Shaw's creation could talk—mostly about himself, but now and then getting in a shrewd Shavian home-thrust at somebody or something.

The plot matters not at all. The All-Highest had to be introduced somehow; and so he was brought to an hotel to inspect a Princess who was to marry one of his numerous nicknamed sons. But instead of the Princess, he meets her new maid, the aforesaid archdeacon's expensive daughter, who fortunately is intelligent enough to be able to play the useful part of prompter with a sympathetic ear. The curtain comes down on a characteristically whimsical finish—the exit of the couple, bent on a visit to the Zoo. There was plenty of laughter throughout, in which Mr. Shaw, in a box, joined at least as heartily as anyone else.

Mr. Randle Ayrton, made up as an exact copy of a Bernard Partridge cartoon portrait, was in fine form as the Inca, with just the right grandiloquent delivery and air of pomposity; slightly ridiculous, but not half a bad sort—an "All-Highest" that one could laugh with as well as at. Miss Gertrude Kingston as the keen and self-possessed Ermyntrude, Mr. Alfred Drayton as an obsequious hotel manager, Miss Helen Morris as the timid Victorian Princess, Mr. Nigel Playfair as a decayed medical man, now a wartime waiter, and Mr. C. Wordley Hulse as the archdeacon, all entered into the spirit of the fun and were excellent. A call for "author" brought Miss Kingston to the tabs with an announcement—which deceived nobody—that a telegram of congratulation would be sent to the retiring "Fellow."

Mr. Oscar Lewissohn, who died recently, has left the whole of his fortune, which amounts to a million and a quarter sterling, to his wife, who before her marriage was Miss Edna May.

Miss Vera Hamilton, who played Alice in "Alice in Wonderland" at the Savoy last Christmas with abundant success, has become a student of the Academy of Dramatic Art.

The London String Quartet will give four special concerts at the Queen's Hall on the afternoons of Saturday, Dec. 22, and Wednesdays, Jan. 16, 23, and 30, thereby hoping to gain a great many converts to chamber music, so that this class of concert can be considered a permanent institution of musical London life.

In our notice of Alderman Lucas's death last week, the name of the city in which he died was accidentally omitted. It should, of course, have been Oxford.

Mr. Arthur Shirley's new drama, "British to the Backbone," produced at the Richmond Hippodrome on Nov. 19, and fully noticed in "The Era" of Nov. 21, is the attraction at the Elephant and Castle Theatre this week. The stirring drama is capitally interpreted by Mr. Sydney Bransgrove's company, and received a hearty welcome from a well-filled house.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

"Harold in Italy" formed the *pièce de résistance* in the programme of the Royal College of Music orchestral concert, held in the Prince Consort-road Hall on the 10th inst. For its many passages of real beauty and fine imagination—among others that are not so happily inspired—the picturesque work was well worth reviving. Much pains had evidently been bestowed on its preparation, and the playing of the College orchestra, under the able direction of Sir Charles V. Stanford, was on a high level throughout. The viola part was beautifully played by Mr. Ernest Tomlinson.

Besides the symphony, the orchestra performed Cherubini's "Medea" overture, and did excellent work, too, in Beethoven's Fourth Pianoforte Concerto, in which a very accomplished pianist, Miss Flora C. McGill, made an appearance. Two singers were heard during the afternoon: Miss Marguerite Echevarri, who gave a pleasing rendering of "Voi, che sapete," and Miss Ethel R. McLelland, a fresh-toned, powerful soprano, who sang Max Bruch's "Ave Maria" with full appreciation of its dramatic possibilities.

An enquiry was held at Bognor on the 6th inst. concerning the death of Mrs. Alice May Curtiss, the wife of Mr. Sydney William Curtiss, professionally known as Thomas Courtice, manager of a theatrical touring company, and formerly manager of the Bognor Kursaal. Mrs. Curtiss was found lying on the floor by a gas-stove, her head enveloped in a wet sheet, which was fixed tightly over the jet in such a way as to confine the gas to the folds of the sheet. She was quite dead. The evidence showed that about a year ago deceased lost an only child, a little boy of nine, and this had preyed on her mind. The jury returned a verdict of suicide during temporary insanity.

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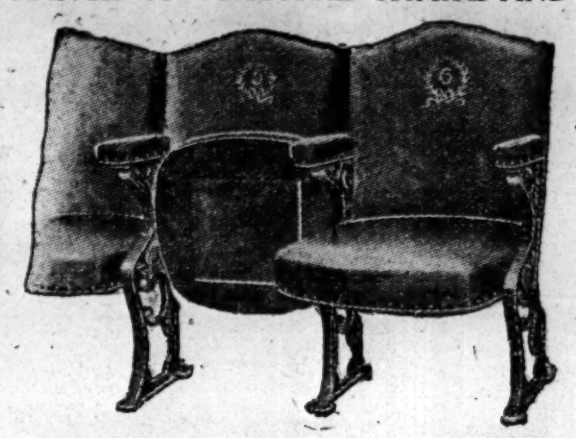

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"REMNANT" (MIETTE).

THE ENTIRE ROYALTY PRODUCTION IS TRAVELLED, and a remarkably strong supporting Company of London Artistes, THE LAST WEEK OF A TRIUMPHANT TOUR THIS BRILLIANT LITTLE ARTISTE played to

OVER £1,050.

Every seat for the Saturday was sold by the preceding Wednesday morning, in spite of excellent counter attractions, including the entire London production of "Topsy Turvy," and Artistes from the Empire.

MANY RETURN DATES at the principal Theatres and Music Halls are again already booked.

FOR A FEW IMMEDIATE BOOKINGS please write to KEITH KENNETH, QUEEN'S THEATRE, W.

VARIETY NOTES.

Cissie Lupino,
the charming young dancer who has just concluded a highly successful provincial tour, resumed the L.T.V. tour on Monday at the Palladium, where she is being given a very gratifying reception.

Elvin Hedges,
the popular ragtimer, was at the Bristol Hippodrome last week, where his songs and piano playing were responsible for the heartiest of applause.

Nixon Grey.

This popular comedian, who has been prominently featured in the provinces recently, will introduce some new numbers when he resumes the L.T.V. tour on Jan. 7. His recent number, "Roses and Radishes, Pansies and Peas," has proved a great success.

Johnson Clark.

After a long provincial tour, the sportsman ventriloquist, opens in town the first week in the New Year, when he resumes the L.T.V. tour, and will introduce new features into his show. The following week he is due at Golder's Green.

Marjorie Fulton.

At the Hippodrome, Bristol, last week, Marjorie Fulton had just arrived at the stage door when a youthful autograph hunter ran up to her, and said, "Excuse me, but are you Miss Ellen Terry?" "No," replied Marjorie, "but I thank you for the compliment."

Taylor and Browning.

On Thursday last Ben and Bonny were asked to deputise for the top of the bill at Poplar, where they gained a handsome reception. Curiously enough, they were requested to deputise the same afternoon at the Coliseum, but as they were rehearsing for pantomime and playing at Shoreditch, they had to decline, only to find a second request a few hours later.

Golders Green Attractions.

Future bookings here include "What Happened to Jones" next week, and the following two weeks "Mother Goose" and "Little Red Riding Hood." Pantomime is followed by "Damaged Goods," "Bella Donna," "Zig-Zag," "Passers-By," "One Hour of Life," and "Inside the Lines." Lawrence Maloney is open to book similar plays from May onwards.

Donald and Carson.

These popular artistes had a most successful time at the Hippodrome, Bristol, last week. Peter and Meta were introduced in this country by Mr. Oswald Stoll about seven years ago, when they appeared with much success at the Coliseum, and since that time they have played almost every leading hall. Their friends on the other side often inquire when they are returning home. Their new act is shaping very well, and their next appearance in town is at the Hackney Empire in January.

The Martinis and Pianist.

An outstanding feature of the bill at Collins's last week was the entertainment provided by this popular trio. If anything, the act has improved since it scored such a success at the Victoria Palace about three months ago. This week it is playing at Rotherhithe Hippodrome, and next week opens on the Macnaghten Tour at Southampton, returning to town the following week at Shoreditch.

Hope Charteris,
the popular Australian soprano, is in town this week at the Victoria Palace, appearing with that delightful combination the Femina Quartette. On the 31st Miss Charteris resumes her single act on the Syndicate Tour.

Florence Fox at the Pav.

This popular comedienne has made a very favourable impression in the new production here.

MELODYLAND.

B. Feldman and Co.

Glasgow has given its verdict once again in favour of Feldman songs. Here are the winners. Theatre Royal (Howard and Wyndham): "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning," "Down Texas Way," and "Where the Black-eyed Susans Grow," sung by Daisy Dormer; "Do You Like Me?" duet by Daisy Dormer and Jimmy Pullen; "You Oughtn't To Do It!" sung by Mona Magnet; "My Baby Soldier Boy," sung by Marie Brayman. Alhambra (Wylie and Tate): "Where the Black-eyed Susans Grow," sung by Ella Retford; "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning," sung by Susie Belmore; "Do You Like Me?" duet by Ella Retford and Susie Belmore. Princess's (Rich. Waldon): "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning" and "Where the Black-eyed Susans Grow," sung by Kitty Curtis; "My Own Iona" and "They're Wearing 'Em Higher in Hawaii," sung by Sophie Forrest; "Down Texas Way," sung by Raie and Rosie Walters.

Ross Lee Ivy made a hit in Glasgow last week with two fine ballad numbers, "For One Sweet Day" and "When it Strikes Home."

Mabel Manson, who drew such appreciation at Hammersmith Palace last week, is at the Palladium this week singing "I Never Knew I Loved You Till You Said Good-bye" in her well-known artistic style. "A fine song and a fine singer" is the unanimous verdict.

Maisie Ayling, who will play principal boy at Dalston Theatre, sings "Where the Black-eyed Susans Grow" in her own inimitable way, which is both original and attractive.

Isobel Dorothy writes:—"I produced 'I Don't Want to Go Back (Where the Swanee River Flows)' at the Hippodrome, Boscombe. It proved an enormous success."

Zoe Corner and Bernard Knowles in Bannister Howard's touring pantomime, "Aladdin," which opens at the Opera House, Southport, on the 26th inst., are producing two fine numbers in "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning" and "Till the Sands of the Desert Grow Cold."

Lawrence Wright Co.

Any doubts as to the ultimate great popularity of the new chorus song, "Just Keep Marching Along," are at rest. Reports from all parts testify to the enormous success of this number. It is an outstanding hit of the first Scottish pantomimes. The Acland-Gwynne Trio are scoring heavily with this number at the Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester; Zonny Fiske has made a hit with it at the Empress, Brixton; as has also Miss Gwladys Soman at Hammersmith.

"Snowtime in Switzerland" has been snapped up by practically all the principal girls in the leading pantomimes this year. It is also being used very largely as a song scena, and excellent reports are being received daily regarding this number.

"When God Gave You To Me," that popular ballad by Worton David and Horatio Nicholls, has been secured by most of the leading proprietors and managers. The Clef Quartette made a big success this week at the Palace, Camberwell, with this number. Also Madame Margaret Golda, of the Golda Quartette, at the Palace, Hammersmith; and Miss Amy Evans, at Finsbury Park Empire. Miss Emily Hayes, in addition to a fine rendering of this song at New Cross, is working "In My Dear Old Hometown," a number that will undoubtedly be an enormous hit in pantomime this season.

"Love, Come From Your Hiding Place," by Worton David and Horatio Nicholls, will be heard in many pantomimes this season. It has been chosen by Miss Florence Smithson for her engagement at the Theatre Royal, Manchester. This delightful artiste has also chosen "A Dream of Delight." "Love, Come From Your Hiding Place" is one of the features of the Femina Quartette at the Victoria Palace this week. Miss Dorothy Storm has made a big hit with Horatio Nicholls' new ballad, "When First We Met" at Tottenham this week. Worton David and Lilian Shirley's ballad, "Until We Meet Again," is one of the features of Miss Laura Novea at the Coliseum this week. Miss Amy Evans is also giving a beautiful rendering of this ballad at Finsbury Park.

Star Music Co.

F. W. Wyndham's pantomime, "Cinderella," opened to a crowded and enthusiastic audience at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on Saturday night. Miss Daisy Dormer made a great success with the Star's number, "Down Texas Way." Miss Marie Brayman also featured with equal success the fine production song, "Swing Me in the Moonlight." Other notable Star winners in this pantomime are "There's a Girl for Every Soldier," "I Want You to Know I Miss You," "Oh, It's a Lovely War," "Cheerio, Sailor Boy," "If I Could Turn the Clock Back," and "That's the Stuff to Give 'Em."

Sydney Lester's smart production, "A La Mode," which is appearing at the New Theatre, Oxford, this week, makes quite a feature of the Star Co.'s songs. Among those which call for special mention are "Down Texas Way," "There's a Girl for Every Soldier," "Father Keeps the Home Fire Burning," "I Rather Like It," and "The Land of Children's Dreams."

Violet Farren has just introduced into her successful revue, "We're All In It," which is playing this week at the Hippodrome, Margate, the Star Co.'s fine production song, "Swing Me in the Moonlight," which Miss Maisie O'Conner sings with great success. Another very popular number in the show is "If I Could Turn the Clock Back."

Mr. Godfrey Yates has resigned his position of manager at the Warwich Picture Palace, Liverpool.

The Palace Theatre, Barnoldswick, is doing excellent business, and crowded houses nightly are the rule. The building has been renovated, and any production touring can be staged. A comfortable and profitable week can be relied upon.

MISS DARRAGH.

We regret to record the death on Saturday of Miss Letitia Marion Dallas, professionally known as Miss Darragh. She began her stage career at the Strand Theatre in 1897 in "The Queen's Proctor," but first attracted attention by her performance of the part of Margot Le Gros in "Margot" at the Metropole Theatre, May, 1903. In 1905 she paid a visit to the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, where she appeared in the title-rôle of Mr. W. B. Yeats's "Deirdre." A tour in America was followed by an engagement at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester; and here, in Miss Horniman's company, she did much of her best work. She helped also to found the Repertory Theatre, Liverpool. At the Little Theatre in May, 1913, she played Violet in "Blind Fate," and one of her most recent appearances was as Mrs. Alving in a London revival of Ibsen's "Ghosts."

A DRAMATISTS' DINNER.

The annual "dramatists' dinner" of the Lyceum Club took place at the wonderful club house in Piccadilly on Monday. Miss Dorothy Brandon, the clever author of "Wild Heather," presided, and in the course of a delightful speech insisted that "Wild Heather," her first play, came to be accepted because of one line, which declared "Shakespeare is no good for the working man." (Laughter.) She contrasted audiences of north and south, but expressed the conviction that all audiences appreciated a play with a little bit of sunshine.

Mr. F. Whelan, who proposed the toast of "The Modern Drama," said that in the provinces there was more interest in literature and the drama than in London, though Miss Baylis always kept Shakespeare going at the "Old Vic." (Applause.) He was somewhat depressed with the London position. Theatre after theatre was given to revue and musical comedy—types of work which satisfied tired soldiers from France and their sweethearts, and, indeed, which were extremely prosperous for the theatres. Big syndicates forced up rents, and it was getting more and more difficult for people with limited means to get a building for any hopeful play at all. Shakespeare was no democrat, Mr. Whelan incidentally observed. He had called the democracy a mob. Nevertheless, the democracy had an intense admiration for Shakespeare, and he had seen mill girls at Manchester revel in a Shakespearean play.

Mr. Hemmerde, K.C., who acknowledged the toast, was by no means disappointed with the progress of modern drama. He urged, however, that there was need for making greater use of the stage for the purpose of real intellectual development. This ought to be especially possible in this country, where the theatre stood in a higher social position than in any other country.

Mr. Ben Greet, asked to give evidence as to playwrights' chances with managers, alluded to the park theatres which were such a feature of American cities, and where opera, drama, comedy, and revue were played by stock companies, which perforce had to be exceedingly versatile. There, of course, there were enormous opportunities for the young playwright to get a stock manager to present a new play. It was not only difficult but dangerous to give advice, especially to those anxious to get plays produced. Many people were bursting with ideas for the stage. As a hint, he would mention that if they could give an actor a good part, that actor could be relied upon to move heaven and earth to get that play on the stage. (Laughter.)

The "Guests" were honoured at the instance of Mrs. Cohen, the toast being acknowledged by Miss Baylis, who remarked that many young authors had been indebted for opportunities at the "Vic."

"THREE BITES."

After a short provincial run, Fred Karno's latest production, in three scenes, was presented for the first time in London at the Finsbury Park Empire last week, and is seen this week at the New Cross Empire. It is full of that farcical fun-making that has made the name of Karno famous. The first scene is laid in The Glad Optics Bachelors' Club, and very laughable developments follow the announcement that every man must have three wives. Mr. Jack Gallagher as Willie Waddle is at his best—it is a character that admirably suits his comedy powers. That charming artiste, Miss Dorothy Arnold, was a big success as Lady Betty; and Messrs. George Gordon, Bobbie Lewis, and Stan Stewart as club members all added to the success from a comedy point of view. The low comedy character studies of Miss Alice Maydue and Miss Lulu Lewis were excellent; and both Miss Ivy Florence and Miss Stella Varr looked pretty in their respective parts. The cast is completed by Misses Lillie Griffin, Dorothy Warde, Jessie Stewart, and Gertie Adams, and Mr. Lionel Ellis, a very good Tribunal chairman.

The variety turns include Mr. Vernon Watson in his Frank Tinney impersonation, who is both clever and popular; and Shawlene, an accomplished whistler, did well. Charming Miss Emilie Hayes sang three numbers, and the audience were then loth to part with her; and Mr. Arthur Cooke, in pianoforte selections, contributed a turn more adaptable to the concert platform than the halls.

BALHAM HIPPODROME.

Henry Seton's new topical comedy duologue, entitled "The Link," was produced here on Monday. The scene is in the house of a Mrs. Verriker, who has advertised for a companion whilst her husband is a Tommy at the Front. A real "lidy," Emma Brown, answers the advertisement, but there is a clash of opinions as to social position, Mrs. Verriker delicately suggesting the difficulty of the two living together, and when Mrs. Brown, whose husband is a major, learns of Mrs. Verriker's husband being a private, the tables are turned. But "the link" is formed by the news that both husbands are in the same regiment, both have done gallant deeds, and the bond is cemented. It was well acted by Miss Drusilla Wills as the major's wife, a wonderful low comedy study, and also by Miss Dorothy Ripley, very charming indeed as the private's wife. The duologue was well received.

Miss Leslie Elliott in three songs at the piano scored a triumph; Miss Zetta Mor, the impressionist, also did well; Mr. Sam Mayo, in three songs, was as popular as ever, and Zenora is a clever equilibrist; Miss Lillie Lassah got right there in a principal boy and a "Tommy" song

MUSIC HALL EMPLOYEE'S ARBITRATION.

The arbitration on conditions of employment in variety theatres terminated on Thursday afternoon last, that being the fifth day of hearing. It was expected that the award would be issued in time to permit the managers to arrange for the payment of such sums as might be due to the employees from Sept. 17 last on the usual pay day this week, but this is not now possible, the award not yet having been issued, and some managers estimate that it will take at least a week to prepare an account of the sums due under the changes made.

Mr. Charles Gulliver has agreed to advance certain specified sums this week, and the Union has undertaken the responsibility for any readjustment in the figures which the Award may render necessary. Application has also been made to Messrs. Oswald Stoll, Alfred Butt, Henry Tozer, and Moss' Empires to pay the same advances this week to the same sections, except to those already in receipt of the West End rate. Immediately the award is received by the N.A.T.E copies will be circulated to all the members.

THE MIDDLESBROUGH BRANCH.

An application for an increse of pay made by the Middlesbrough Branch of the N.A.T.E. having been referred to Sir George Askwith, he appointed Mr. T. J. Ashton, K.C., to act as arbitrator. The proceedings took place in the Grand Hotel on the 10th inst., the employers being represented by Messrs. Battison, C. Imeson, Thompson, Gerald Spencer, the secretary of the Tyneside branch of the Managers' Association. The employees were represented by Messrs. Johnson, Harding, Caswell, and Wright. The proceedings lasted about three hours, and were of a very friendly nature. The award in this case is expected daily.

BONUSES TO EMPLOYEES.

The Palace, Manchester, having granted a bonus of 5s. per week to the full-time workers and 3s. per week to the part-time workers on their staff, Mr. Oswald Stoll has granted a bonus of 5s. per week to the members of his full-time workers' staff at the Manchester Hippodrome and the Ardwick Empire. These sums are in addition to the increases given under the agreement entered into last.

A NEW PROJECTOR.

Great credit is due to Messrs. Ruffell's, of Long Acre, London, who have discovered a perfect projector, namely, the "Baird." It simply cannot flicker, and is absolutely fool-proof. Our representative had the favour of seeing the "Baird" projector put to the test of every contingency, and he states emphatically that this new projector is a great step further to the perfecting of film exhibiting.

Linden and Berridge.

These Australian entertainers who were playing at Liverpool last week, are to be seen in town this week at South London, and are meeting with a very gratifying reception. Next week they go to the Euston.

NOTICE TO THEATRE MANAGERS.

In consequence of the great success of

THE THREE DAUGHTERS OF M. DUPONT

in the provinces, it has been decided to form a special Company to present

BRIEUX'S MASTERPIECE

in a limited number of towns.

The Company will be carefully chosen, and the play produced by Mr. LEON M. LION, under the personal supervision of MISS ETHEL IRVING.

THE THREE DAUGHTERS OF M. DUPONT

is undoubtedly one of the most brilliant and forcible plays of modern times.

Mr. J. T. GREIN ("Sunday Times"), in reviewing the production at the Ambassadors, writes:—
"I call the play great, because it is a monument of intellectual force. . . . It contains the material of ten plays."

THE "DAILY SKETCH."—"It has all the strength of 'Damaged Goods,' without the doubtful advantage of a prurient subject. HERE IS THE MOST POWERFUL PLAY IN LONDON."

Referring to Mr. LEON M. LION'S work as producer, the "EVENING STANDARD" says:—"In Mr. LEON M. LION we have clearly discovered a producer of the first rank."

MANAGERS OF THEATRES ARE INVITED TO SEND THEIR VACANT DATES FROM FEBRUARY ON, TO—
Mr. A. F. HENDERSON, 53a, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W. 1.

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1917.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Jim Patti, Pictures.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Mizuno Troupe, Rose Bush, Hamilton and McNab, Four Scotia Lassies, Ellis Drake and Co. in "Wullie," Chris O'Brien, Murphy and Mack.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Harry Ronez Quartette, Albert Voyce, Lyons Trio, Eugene, Syd Sydney, Pathe Gazette, Will Cornish, Flying Reos.

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE.—"Tonight's the Night."

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Peterman's Co. in "The Bewildered Barber," Sisters Le Clair, Billy Housini and Co., Ed. Kinsberry, J. P. Ling, Pathe Gazette, Shimaghata Troupe.

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—"Betty."

PAISLEY RINK VARIETY PALACE (rehearsal, 6.30).—Four Maxwells, La Razcka Duo, Orton and Onley, pictures

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

BIRMINGHAM GAIETY. — Miss Eva Elweys' "Maria Martin" Co., Ivor Winter, George Swoffield, Ernest, Williams and Parker, Harry Laybourne, Bioscope.

CANNOCK HIPPODROME. — "The Wits."

WEST BROMWICH EMPIRE.—Beresford and Pearce's Football and Skating Girls, Two Junes, Harry Taft, May Lock, Fred Ellis, Minnie Oste, Dave Heely, Bioscope.

WEST BROMWICH ROYAL. — Miss Marie Santoi's "Aladdin" Co.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS

BRIXTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Rossi's Musical Elephants, A. D. Robbins, Belle Davis and her Cracker Jacks, Sisters Mestry, J. G. Taylor and Dorothy Summers, Foster Kershaw, Novacels, Marcelle Caron, Cissie Cave, Bioscope.

CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12). — Terence Byron and company in "Simple Simon," Foot-Gers, Wilson and Ernie, The Biff Girls, Kathleen O'Hanlon and Zambuni, Chris Van Bern, Carson and Bryan, Norman Field, Nan Foster, Bioscope.

EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12).—Herbert Jay presents George Gregory in "Frills and Drills," Theo Ward, Signor and Madame Borelli.

EUSTON (rehearsal, 12).—Joe Elvin and company in "Bogies," The Motramos, Victor Kelly, Edgar Curtis, Linden and Berridge, Gwladys Soman, Dave Morris, Les Altos, Bioscope, Vera Hicks.

LONDON PAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30).—E. C. Rolls presents "Any Old Thing."

METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15).—Marie Lloyd, Royal Scarlet Entertainers, Ackroyd and Lorenzi, Ko Ten Ichi Troupe, Mayne Steepers, Henry Bedford and company in "An Empty Sleeve," Claude Lester, Frank H. Fox, Edie Gorf, Bioscope.

OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—C. B. Cochran presents "The Better 'Ole."

SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—Tom and Mary Motramo, Artemas, Maggie Clifton and Partner, The Castillians, Ethel Newman, J. C. Taylor and Dorothy Summers, Billy Rogers, Wally Pearce, Two Devons, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 2).—"The Lads of the Village."

WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1).—Walter Bentley presents "Odds On."

WATFORD (rehearsal, 1).—Stanley Cooke and company in "The Girl From Upstairs."

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

BALHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Day's revue, "Pleasure Bound," Bioscope, Hanlon Charles Trio.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Mayfair Productions Revue, "All British."

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—George Mozart, Marie Loftus, Vasco, W. H. Fox, Anna Dorothy, Wyn and Ivy, The Hartley Wonders, Bert Weston, The Mervan Girls, Bioscope.

CLAPHAM GRAND PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—The Seven Nobodies, Kirkby and Hudson, Mary Mayfren and Co. in "The Woman of Louvain," Wish Wynne, May Levey, Johannys, Ted Saunders, The Nondescripts, Bioscope.

CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—H. M. Vernon's Co., "The Double Escape," Marie Dainton, Shirley and Ransome, The Days, Geo. Newburn, Borneo Gardner, Oswald Bemand, Joe and Willy, Bioscope.

CROYDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Joe Collins's Co. in "Sinbad the Sailor," Bioscope.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—R. G. Knowles, Sam Mayo, Jack Pleasants, Percy Honri, Delson Good Trio, The Three Prodigies, Hayman and Franklin, Betancourt, The Five Jovers, Bioscope.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Ernie Lotinga and Co. in "Wanted, a Wife," Arthur Ferriss, Kirkby and Hudson, Torino, Jack Pleasants, Lilian Byrne, Estelle Rose, Bioscope, Jack and Evelyn.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Gulliver's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Pimple and Co. in "Father," Daly and Healy, Bert Terrell, Jack Lane, Isobel Dorothy, Sather, Nina Dumai, The Sisters Macarte, Bioscope.

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Little Tich, Sam Mayo, Charles Cohan, Shawlene, Jay Whidden, Isa Wise, Cecil Lyle, The Quaint O's, Bioscope.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Gulliver's pantomime, "Cinderella."

THE PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11.30).—Wilkie Bard, Neil Kenyon, Bransby Williams, Hetty King, Vernon Watson, The Gregory Troupe—Amy Evans, Sam Barton, Bessie Clifford, Bioscope.

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Wish Wynne, Fred Russell, Estelle Rose, Dusty Rhodes, The Seven Leroys, Lilian and Gracie, Frank Silvo, The Stedmans, Bioscope.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Coram, Jay Whidden, Dolly Elsworthy, Maurice, Betty and W. Gordon, Phil Kaufman, The Paget Trio, Witt and Butt, Bioscope.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker's Appeal," C. J. Johnson, Horace White, Lillie Lassah, Brett and Dix, Topsy Lee, Chas. Levey, Bioscope.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Gulliver's pantomime, "Mother Goose."

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Lew Lake's Co. in "The House That Jerry Built," Dale and O'Malley, May and Bertha, Warner, Bioscope.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—John Lawson and Co. in "Humanity," The Harmony Four, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Mabel Manson, The Record Quartette, Takio, Bert Weston, The Stellios, Bioscope.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—Pictures, Symphonik, Harold Feber, Helen Charles, Cyril Clensy, Burr and Hope, the Kavanaghs.

BRADFORD.—Pictures, Hanvarr and Lee, Cavalotti, "Happy Days."

CARLISLE. — Pictures, Regard and Brownie, J. H. Scotland, "Meanest Man on Earth," Stowe Brothers, Alf James Holt, Phyl and Madge, Frank and Vesta.

HALIFAX.—Pictures, Finlay Dunn, Reg Faze, Loraine West, Francini and Elsie Ollems, the Four Havannas, Nine Dainty Dots.

HUDDERSFIELD. — Pictures, Wee Georgie Beck, Marcelle Molray, Niblo and Doris, the Khaki Boys, Those Four Kids, Lois Conn, Cyril Silvern.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Pictures, Lucille Benstead, Hedley and Windish, Martinis and Vic Gould, Vardel and Partner, Mary Moran, Professor Earle, and company as booked.

WARRINGTON. — Pictures, Thornton and Delia, Ryewodes Trio, Steele and Ross, Eddy Reed, Sylvia and Mignon, "Hunting Trouble."

Bradford bars Shipley.

Blackburn bars Darwen and Accrington.

Burnley bars Nelson, Accrington, Colne and Rawtenstall.

Warrington bars Earlstown and Widnes.

Southampton bars Eastleigh.

Rehearsal at all halls at 12.

MOSS' EMPIRES.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Waters and Morris, Arthur Cooke, Marie Louise and "Bit," Yelson Trio, Lily Hayes.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Johnson Clark, Melody Makers, Brazilian Trio, Les Trombetta.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Mlle. Zampa, Dan Doyle, Ivy Stephens.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Julian Vedey, Emelyn Walters

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Archie Goodall, Ena Dayne, Tom E. Hughes, Wells and Eclair Twins.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Vivian Foster, De Busse, Kamakura Family, Duncan and Godfrey, Spalding and Vanguard, Herbert Cave.

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"Flying Colours."

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Bert Williams, 3 Merrills, Harry Bedford, Marie Kay, Sam Kelly and Partner, The Five Wartons.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA.—Rehearsal for pantomime.

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—"Zig-Zag."

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Margaret Golda Quartette, S. W. Wyndham, Barton and Ashley, Ida Barr, Cornalla and Eddie, Garadini.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Marie Ambrose, The Real McKays, The Bucks, Fred Keeton, Four Clovelly Girls.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Donald and Carson, Derra De Moroda, The Six Q's, Gus Harris, Gomez Trio, Sprosell Bros. and Mack.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"The Better 'Ole."

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Damaged Goods."

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Manny and Roberts, Jerry and company, Lewis Douglas, Arthur Woodville, Emeric and Ainslie.

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"The Tale of Two Cities."

STOLL TOUR.

ARDWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Anna Hana, J. J. Wild and Co., Harry Taylor, Romani, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Fred Milner, Ethel Fenton, Frank Whitman, The Jees, Meredith and Adnil, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Ida Long, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Alberto, Bioscope

CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Bartle Quartette, George D'Albert, Evelyn and Clayton, Bioscope.

HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Hall and Turn, Tom Clare, Fyne and Hurley, Flora Cromer, Susie Marney, Bioscope.

LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Lola Patey, Wieland, The McNaughtons, Walker's Juveniles, Bioscope.

LONDON ALHAMBRA, W.C.—"Round the Map" revue. Cast includes Violet Lauraine, Nelson Keys, and Alfred Lester.

LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).—Marguerite Scialtiel & Co. in "Maid of France," Grock, Ching Wu, Coram, Spain and Jackson, Dalmere's Circus, Five Olracs, Emilie Hayes, Sergeant Brennan, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10).—Schreck and Percival, Florence Wray and Co., Haines' English Ballet, Bioscope.

NEW MIDDLESEX (rehearsal, 12).—"The Sugar Baby."

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal 12).—Butters and Boob, Winifred Ward, Ritchie Troupe, Cruikshank, Laura Novea, Cissie Lupino, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE (London Opera House).—Pictures and varieties.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—The Edivictas, Phil Ray, Bioscope.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Halmo, Armstrong and Howarth, Mareski, Ethel Hook, Geo. Graves and Co., G. S. Melvin, Ketos, Pictures.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—Wylie and Tate's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Zari, Arthur Roberts and Co., Jean Schwiller and Co., Beth Tate, Sam Stern, Grados, pictures, &c.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Robin Hood" or "The Babes in the Wood."

MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11).—Wylie and Tate's panto., "Babes in the Wood."

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—Lena Stanton's pantomime, "Mother Goose."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"Topsy Turvy."

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Lebas Duo, Geo. Lowe, Jack Edge, Takio and Koma Namba, Max Darewski, &c.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal 12).—Edelsten and Burns's pantomime "Jack and Jill."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Jaan Van Laren, Rembrandt, Carlyon and Freeman, Harold Montagu, Edgar Hudson Quartette, Van Hoven, Jack Boston and Co., Pictures.

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Leith Hazel, Phil Branesby, Olga Hudson Trio, Pictures, Bob and Harry, Anderson and Pony, Morgan and Burke, &c.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

Rehearsals at each place at 1 o'clock except Weymouth, at 12.

BRIDGWATER PALACE.—Mars, Fanny Needham.

PORTLAND EASTON PALACE.—Pictures.

RADSTOCK PALACE. — Cooper and Baines.

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—"Merely Mary Ann" Co.

SALISBURY PALACE.—Esa Trio, Sisters Webb, Martinek and Doll, Woodward and Page.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE PALACE. — "The Rotters" Co.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Wilson and Waring, Angel Blanco, Daisy Griff, Three Canadians, Fenner and Sully.

WEYMOUTH PALLADIUM.—Pictures.

YEOVIL PALACE.—The Balladmongers, Leo Lester and Dog.

ARTISTES BOOKED AT MILITARY THEATRES, Bulford, Larkhill, Fovant, Hurdcott, Sutton Veny, Codford, Wool, Wareham, include:—Clara Danell, Snowball and Delia, Douglas, Signor and Madame Borelli, Jean Mayfayre, Pueblo and Cropp, Nat Travers, Millie Merrie, Bunny and Gladys, McLean Twins, Bobbie Peeler, Jack Williams, St. Malo and Coombs, Donovan Russell, May and Francis, Goodie Leyton, Ruff and Tumble, Anna Watts, Charles Ancaster, and company as booked.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Ray Kay and company, Mullaney Brothers, Cornetti Trio, Zellini, Talbot and Pearce, 2 Le Bergs, Johnny Dwyer.

ALDERSHOT ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30). — Les Pansersa Belle, Vesta and Violet, Lee and Rose, The Beaumont Male Quartette, The Two Pearls, Marshall and Moore, Vi Maylott, Irene May, Hattie Hobson, Maudie Walters, Edith Wright, Tom Road, Alf Baker, Florrie, Alice, and Laven Best, Sisters Greenslade, Nellie Pamlin, Edie Westall, Gladys Watson, Annie Killingback, Marie Scott, Queenie Poole, Millie Poynton, Elsie Dare, Rosie Lawrence, Florence Anderson, Ivy Caston, Fred Bowell, Tom Saunders, Fred Wilkinson, Betty Croft Mavis Pledge.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Buss "In the Trenches," Frank Kavanagh and Co., Edna Lyall, Harry Cotton, Charles Mildare.

BATH PALACE.—Fred Rex and Co. in "Money and Misery," Billy Simpson, Gwen Thomas, Jenkins Bros., Amy Porter, Stone and Bradley, Bioscope, &c.

BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). — 1. Great Call, Ray Wallace, Myra Forbes Trio, Ray Hartley.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—May Henderson, Sammy Shields, The Gothams, Michaeloff Russian Trio, Vera Caine.

DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE.—"The Marriage Market."

DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Charles Morritt and Co., Carino, Nan Terry and "What," Omega Trio, Wal Langtry, Brown and Potter, Pierre Rouncinsky.

EDINBURGH PRINGLE'S PALACE.—Laurel and Laurette, Gray and Richards, Ina Black

FELIXSTOWE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 2).—Eddie and Edna, George Dixon.

FOLKESTONE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lilly Lancaster, Heeley and Crawford.

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Tommy Trotter."

GOLDERS GREEN HIPPODROME.—"What Happened to Jones" Co.

ISLINGTON PALACE. — Phil Ree's "Coppers," Irene Rose, Stanley Waller, Della Ray, Crawford and Johnson, Bioscope, &c.

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Cecily Courtneidge, Fred Curran, Alfredo, A-Ya-Me Troupe, Will Hay and Assistant, Fred and May, Sisters Le Claire, Silent Tait and Aimee.

LONDON CANTERBURY.—Harry Luck, The Two Dots, The Four Sangers, Pathé Gazette, Pictures.

LONDON GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 2).—Gilbert Heron and Co. in "Saved by Wireless," Tina Paynola, Florence Rattray, Lilian and Gracie, Loune and Ladies, Four Black Diamonds, Herbert Martell, E. K. Nelson and Co. in "A Lame Excuse," Ellis and Carlton, Pathé's Gazette.

LONDON—MILE END EMPIRE.—Clyde and Hope Hal Chapter, Rosie Wynn, Dare Ring.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12). — Wu Chaio Troupe, Yetta Raymond an dIvy, Ethel Casseldini, Royal Merry Four, Arran, Freda Danilo, Three Campbells.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Horsfield and Woodward's pantomime, "Aladdin."

PLYMOUTH PALACE.—Rameses, Jay Hudson, Les Nossellas, Dora Dare, J. J. Wylde's sketch, "List for a Soldier," Dan Filmer.

PONTYPRIDD TOWN HALL.—The Flying Banvards, Alice Raymond and company in "Visions of Harmony," Ted Hopkins, Frank Sylvo, Lily Denville, pictures.

READING PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Joe Roganny and his comedians, Winnifred Holme, Margetta and Aubert, Frank Powell, Pathé's Gazette, Gicardo, Private Evans, Molly Walle and Frank Mayhan.

SALFORD REGENT (rehearsal, 11).—Joe Waldron's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor."

WIGAN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—Giordano and Co., Mme. Hibbert's Young Ladies, Frederica's Terriers, Wal Marsden Berry and Hart, Harry Hewitt, Walter KeKmp and Co. in "Jack's Invention."

Miss Mildred Maude writes:—"I am continually receiving letters about my age, and the last few weeks have had inspectors of various societies to interview. I would esteem it a great favour if you would just allow me to announce that, according to testimony which I have no reason to doubt, my entrance into this world occurred on Aug. 19, 1902. I have not, therefore, arrived at that age when it is necessary to take off a few years, and at the same time am legally permitted by the great powers that be to obtain my own subsistence without a licence."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

DEATHS.

HORNER.—On the 11th instant, at his residence, Woodside, 171, Todmorden-road, Burnley, in his 45th year, Harry, the beloved husband of Cissy Horner, only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Horner, of Fir Grove, Todmorden-road, Burnley, and acting manager of the Victoria Opera House, and New Empire, Burnley. Interred at the Burnley Cemetery, Friday, Dec. 14, 1917.

HARRISON.—At Bedford Park, at 5.30 a.m., on Dec. 16, Charles Lancelot Harrison, the dearly beloved father of Eric Harrison, after only a few hours' illness. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife, daughter, and sons.

IN MEMORIAM.

HARDIE.—In loving memory of my dear wife (Lizzie Collier) who passed away Dec. 22, 1914. Missed mo reevery day by Connie and Self. A. C. Hardie.

In beloved memory of John Henderson, actor and author, who died Christmas Day, 1916. Ever mourned by his wife and daughter, Fanny and Millie Henderson. "Rosemary, that's for remembrance."

MARTIN.—In loving memory of my dear husband, William R. Martin scenic artist, who passed away Dec. 15, 1916, regretfully mourned by his wife, Topsy Robina.

QUEEN'S HALL.

Berlioz's "Fantastic" symphony is so seldom heard in London that its performance on the 1st tinst. by the New Queen's Hall Orchestra, made their concert—the last before Christmas—more than usually interesting. In Sir Henry Wood's hands the work had a vivid interpretation, and was highly appreciated. Much interest also attached to the performance of a violoncello concerto, in D, by Haydn, composed in 1772, and only recently published by J. and W. Chester. There are three movements, of which the second, an adagio, is the most attractive. Judged as a whole, the work leaves an impression of monotony. A finer rendering of the solo part than was given by Mme. Guilhermina Suggia could not have been desired. Her distinguished tone and the grace, and charm of her style have never found a more suitable medium.

The novelty of the day was a witty, altogether delightful "Scherzo," by Roger-Ducasse, written, in the modern French style of orchestration, round the joys and excitements of the parlour game of "Hunt the ring."

Madame Marguerite D'Alvarez was the singer. Her solos were Gluck's "O toi qui prolongeas" and Debussy's "Air de Lia." Both were given with great beauty of tone and rare command of dramatic expression.

Bath Red Cross Week.

The performances of "Ann" throughout last week at the Theatre Royal, Bath, in aid of the local Red Cross funds, drew large audiences. On Saturday night the Mayor of Bath (Dr. Preston King) gave his patronage, and he was well supported by the Aldermen and Councillors of the city. At the conclusion the Mayor, accompanied by Lady de Blaquire, went on the stage, and her ladyship, in a graceful speech, thanked the company for their Christmas gift in the form of the profits arising frm the performances. It would go to help the wounded now in Bath to enjoy their enforced Yuletide visit to the various hospitals in Bath. She also thanked Mr. Lechmore Worrell, the author, for taking such an interest in the week, and also for playing the leading male rôle in his own comedy, and to Mrs. Munro, the resident lady manager of the theatre, for her admirable performance of Ann; also for her great kindness and that of Mr. Carleton, the lessee, in placing the theatre at the disposal of the Red Cross for so worthy an object. Mr. Lechmore Worrell and Mrs. Munro presented Mr. Arthur Rose, who kindly undertook the duties of stage manager, with a handsome cigarette-case.

War Market Sale at Kingston.

Captain John Donald, well known in theatrical and variety managerial circles, provided an excellent concert on the occasion of the War Market Sale at the Baths, Kingston-on-Thames, on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 11. The following artistes kindly appeared:—Miss Ethel Fenton, Leo Dryden, Miss Adele Crispin, who presented "The Little Rainbows," a wounded Belgian violinist, Charles Coborn, Miss Kittie Douglas, Miss Rosie Gaston, A. C. Astor, ventriloquist, Miss Kathleen O'Narve, Jack Edge, Miss Ena Cole, Miss Celeste Tyte, Wilson Hallett, and Harry Claff. Mr. C. Douglas Stuart acted as stage manager, and Mr. Gerald Darrell and Mr. George Moule were the acting managers. A portion of the orchestra from the Empire, Kingston, under the direction of Mr. George Ess, volunteered their services.

V.A.B.F. and I.

The following additional amounts have been received towards the expenses of the New Year's Old Folks' Treat:—W. H. Atlas (sale of postcards), 10s.; George Mantom, jun., 2s. 6d.; collected by Albert Voyce, 9s.; collected by Mr. George Graves, £1 15s. Another £7 to £8 is still required. The committee earnestly ask all friends of the fund to forward a few shillings tomake the amount up.

Miss Daisy James is thanked by the committee for £3 1s, contained in her collecting brick.

Mr. F. Slingsby is thanked for forwarding 8s., the contents of the collecting-box at the offices of the M.H.A.R.A. in Manchester.

A Glasgow Matinée.

A special matinée was given at the Glasgow Pavilion yesterday (Tuesday), under the auspices of the Fishmongers' Company. George Formby, Daisy Dormer, Morny Cash, Kitty Curtis, Sophie Forrest, and a contingent from the D'Oyly Carte Company were on the programme.

Displayed Advertisements inserted at the charge of 6/- per inch single column, 12/- per inch double column.

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OH! DOCTOR. Revue, (New Production) Cast includes:—George Jackley, Ray Holgate, Hettie Hartley, &c. Vacant March 25, 1918 onwards (with exceptions).

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Christmas Fare.

The ordinary Christmas festivities will be limited by order of the Food Controller, but happily there will be no restrictions on amusements. The number of theatres open will compare favourably with those of last year, every available house being utilised, some both morning and afternoon, for the provision of Christmas fare.

Yuletide theatrical festivities started on Saturday with the revival of "Charley's Aunt" at the St. James's, and will be continued to-morrow (Thursday), with the production of "The Wonder Tales" at the Ambassadors; while on the same afternoon Mr. Percy Hutchison revives "A Kiss for Cinderella" at the Queen's.

The performance on that day of Sir James Barrie's play will be given in aid of the Queen's Hospital for Sailors and Soldiers at Frognal. Her Majesty has graciously promised to attend the performance. Other attractive items of the programme are a recitation by Miss Madge Titheradge of "For England," and Miss Marie Lohr's delivery of an appeal, specially written by Mr. Louis N. Parker, on behalf of the hospital. The cast of "A Kiss for Cinderella" includes Messrs. Percy Hutchison, Arthur Cullin, F. G. Thurstans, William Lugg, and Misses Diana Wilson, Madge Murray, Elsie Stranack, Lilian Constance, and Hilda Trevelyan.

Saturday next will serve for the introduction of "The Prodigy" at the Court. On the same afternoon Mr. Cecil Barth revives "The Private Secretary" at the Savoy, which later goes into the evening bill, giving place to "Alice in Wonderland," which will figure at matinées, beginning on Monday next.

Christmas Eve indeed brings five fairy plays to the West End, for, in addition to "Alice" on that afternoon "Peter Pan" will be welcomed at the New by boys and girls and those who have grown up since they first made his acquaintance; "Bluebell in Fairyland" will bid her admirers to the Alhambra; "The Happy Family" will foregather at the Strand; and in the evening the St. Martin's will be occupied by "Sleeping Partners."

One West End Pantomime.

Drury Lane is apparently to supply the only pantomime in the West End, as against at least four last year. Mr. Arthur Collins, indeed, would prefer that "Aladdin," which is due on Boxing evening, should be called, not pantomime, but fairy musical comedy.

A Real Chinese Spectacle.

"There will be many novelties," he tells me. "The costumes are made according to prints in the British Museum, and this will be the first play of Chinese life to adopt the pigtailless period of the Manchu dynasty, in the early seventeenth century. We have kept to a well-defined scheme of beautiful and realistic decoration. In a prologue and 12 scenes there will be plenty of incidents to amuse the audience, plenty to interest them, much gay music, much dancing, and great Chinese spectacular effects."

A Palace Record.

Mr. Alfred Butt informs me that within twelve hours of the production of "Pamela" at the Palace Theatre he negotiated £13,000 worth of advance booking for the new musical comedy in which Miss Lily Elsie has made such a triumphant return to the stage, in company with Mr. Owen Nares and Mr. G. P. Huntley. This figure, I imagine, is record for a play covering eight performances a week.

A Christmas P[illegible]

With the laudable desire of giving Mr. W. H. Berry and the entire company presenting "The Boy" a rest on Christmas Eve, Mr. Alfred Butt has decided to close the Adelphi Theatre on Monday, and reopen on the afternoon of Boxing Day. There will be matinées daily until January 1.

The New Actor-Manageress.

The house at which Miss Marie Löhr will embark on theatrical management is now decided upon. It will be the Globe, of which Miss Löhr has acquired a lease extending over several years.

Discovering the Artiste.

Speaking at a meeting of the Association of Advertising Women, held on the 19th inst., at the Emerson Club, Miss Horniman said that the great actresses of the 19th century were not to the fore until they got their chance to play a leading part. There were many real artistes of the present day playing "walking on" parts who would not be noticed by the public until they were playing a lead.

Mr. Eric Harrison's Loss.

Mr. Eric Harrison, who is now rehearsing for Mr. Alfred Butt's production of "The Boy" for a month at Glasgow, has just suffered a sad bereavement by the sudden death of his father from cerebral hæmorrhage after only a few hours' illness.

Comedy Revived at Court.

In producing "The Prodigy" at the Court Theatre on Saturday next, Mr. Chas. Windermere has returned to the original policy of the theatre, for at one time the Court was numbered among the premier comedy houses in London. Many celebrated actors and actresses have trodden its boards, including Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mrs. John Wood (who drew all in town to Sloane-square), and Miss Ethel Irving, while in later days Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker had a very successful tenancy.

The lease has now been acquired by an influential syndicate, of which Mr. Gaston Mayer is a leading spirit, with Mr. A. S. Pigott, so long associated with Mr. Frank Benson, as general manager. The cast includes Mr. Charles Windermere in the leading part, Mr. Douglas Munro, Messrs. G. E. Robson, F. Pennington-Gush, W. E. Langley, Lawrence J. Lawrence, Barbara Gott, Clare Mansfield, Dorothy Holmes-Gore, Blanche Pingleston, Valerie Wyngate, Meta Pelham, Dorothy Hall, and Flora Courtenay.

The "Old Vic." Appeal.

Miss Ellen Terry is appearing in one of the tableaux of Shakespearean paintings at the "Old Vic." Appeal matinée at the Lyric Theatre on Jan. 11. Another interesting item of the matinée will be an old melodrama called "The Outlaw of Barra; or, The Spectre of Bodach Glas," which was played at the "Old Vic." Theatre in 1838. It will be produced by Mr. Gerald du Maurier.

Theatrical Managers' Association.

The Theatrical Managers' Association will hold its monthly meeting at the offices, 52, Shaftesbury-avenue, to-morrow (Thursday), at 3 p.m.

The Margaret Morris Theatre.

Miss Jean Stirling Mackinlay will commence her season at the Margaret Morris Theatre, Chelsea, on Saturday afternoon next. The programme includes a new fairy play by Mr. Harcourt Williams, entitled "The Three Bears," to be followed by a presentation of "Little Zeck's Dream."

The Latest "Alice."

Many attractive and artistic Alices have been seen in "Wonderland"—that is to say, in Savile Clarke's and Walter Slaughter's brilliant stage blend of Lewis Carroll's beloved masterpiece, since it made its début at the Prince of Wales's thirty-one years ago next Christmas. Phœbe Carlo, Ellaline Terriss, Vera Hamilton, and Ivy Sawyer—to name no others—came and conquered juvenile playgoers' hearts, and have since "grown out" of the part. To judge from the way that the newest Alice, little Estelle Dudley, to wit, is rehearsing, we are to see another beautiful and brainy representative of this ever-welcome child-heroine.

[*Photo., Claude Harris.*

THE NEW ALICE.

Little Estelle is but ten years of age—and you will find her birth certificate in the Savoy Theatre vestibule to prove this. Yet her acting, singing, and dancing, acquired in some few performances in "home theatricals," show such quality that "Stedmans"—which its present real proprietorial name is Archibald Griffiths—assures me that it has been quite unnecessary to teach Estelle anything beyond the usual rehearsal technique.

"Alice" Free of Tax.

For the run of "Alice in Wonderland" Messrs. Stedmans have decided to bear the entire entertainment tax, thus enabling patrons of Lewis Carroll's immortal dream-play to purchase seats at pre-war prices. Mr. C. Hayden Coffin will play the Hatter; ten-year-old Estelle Dudley, Alice; and Miss Vera Clark, the Oyster Queen.

"General Post's" New Lead.

I looked in at the Haymarket the other evening, and found a well-filled and enthusiastic house enjoying Harold Terry's clever play. Miss Madge Titheradge has now left the cast to take up her part in the Drury Lane pantomime, and an excellent substitute has been found in Miss Gertrude Lang, who now plays the part of Betty, the democratic young lady who eventually marries the tailor-general.

Old Bill's Eloquence.

Mr. Martin Adeson's eloquence as Old Bill in "The Better 'Ole," on tour, has a two-fold quality, for not only does he please his audience, but also unlooses their purse-strings for our wounded sailors and soldiers. At the Grand, Wolverhampton, during the matinée and evening performance on Saturday last, he was the means of collecting £52 15s., which, added to that collected at three other towns, makes the respectable total of £234 6s. 3d. "Carry on," Martin, and more power to you.

Oswestry Pantomime.

Preparations for the King's Theatre, Oswestry's first pantomime, are proceeding merrily. The title is "Robinson Crusoe," and Miss Yvonne Lamor has been engaged for the title-rôle. Messrs. J. F. Younge and Charles Carte are responsible for the book, and Mr. R. W. Roberts has written the special numbers of music. Mr. J. F. Younge is arranging and producing.

Manchester Christmas Preparations.

This week the principal Manchester theatres are closed, preparations being in full swing for the opening of the various Christmas shows. On Thursday a production of "Where the Rainbow Ends" will be seen at the Gaiety Theatre; and on Saturday a great welcome is certain for Mr. John Hart's pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes," at the Theatre Royal; and for the Wylie-Tate pantomime "Babes in the Wood" at the Palace.

The Broadhead houses continue to entertain with Will H. Glaze and Wilson Benge's repertory company at the Grand Junction Theatre; the "Some Girls" revue at the King's; "Hullo, Baby!" revue at the Metropole; and variety at the Queen's Park Hippodrome and Royal Osborne Theatre—all good shows.

The Ardwick Empire has a good bill, with Ernest Shand starring, along with Fyne and Hurley; and other varied talent in Morgan and Burke, novel comedians; Dare Austin and company, the Jack Boston Trio, Two Conns and Lloyd, Fred Milner, Zetlin, and Little Kitty Buchan, the latter a charming juvenile comedienne.

A Juvenile Playwright.

Miss Thora Darsie was only 11 years of age when she wrote "The Helping Hand," which met with so favourable a reception. Miss Darsie, in addition to dancing before Royalty at society entertainments, has appeared at the Palladium, and last year played lead in "Only a Quaker Maid" with a concert party. She also appeared successfully on the films.

Bishop Auckland Hippodrome.

The Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland, is to be reopened on Christmas Eve with "My Lady Frayle." The managing director is Mr. Hamilton Baines, well known as the owner of many large halls in different parts of the country; he has secured as his resident manager Mr. W. St. John Cother, a man of wide and varied experience, formerly acting manager for Moss Empires, Ltd., at Glasgow, Cardiff, and Hull, and booking manager for the Albany Ward Circuit. The hall is being elaborately redecorated, and the dressing-rooms are being made very cosy.

Fred. Terry's Leading Lady.

After playing Miss Doris Keane's part of Cavallini in "Romance" for 18 months in all the principal provincial towns, Miss Violet Farebrother is going to be Mr. Fred Terry's leading lady next spring for tour, playing Lady Blakeney in "The Scarlet Pimpernel" and Nell Gwyn in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury."

"Carminetta" on Tour.

"Carminetta" is being presented in the provinces by Messrs. Lewis Waller and Nevill Graham, by arrangement with C. B. Cochran, the tour opening at Dundee on Saturday next. The company includes Miss Maria Minetti, Miss Winifred Hare, Mr. Klit-Gaarde, Mr. J. T. Macmillan, and Edward Lauri, who has produced the operetta.

"The Private Secretary" Cast.

The principals of "The Private Secretary," which Mr. Cecil Barth will present at the Savoy Theatre on Saturday afternoon and evening next, and subsequently on evenings only, will be Mr. Charles E. Walenn as the Rev. Robert Spalding, Mr. Magill Martyn as Mr. Marsland, Mr Roy Byford as Mr. Cattermole, Mr. George Morgan as Douglas Cattermole, Mr. Barrington Foote as Mr. Sydney Gibson, Miss Ida Taylor as Edith Marsland, Miss Winifred James as Eva Webster, Mr. D. Pearce, Mr. F. Darnton, Miss Bertha Northans, and Miss Dora Gregory.

The Strand Future.

Lengthy negotiations have been in progress regarding the Strand Theatre, and now, through the courtesy of Mr. Alfred Butt, Mr. Albert de Courville has secured a tenancy from the end of the run of "The Happy Family." At the end of January he will produce there a musical comedy called "The Butterfly Kiss," the book by Mr. Harry B. Smith, and the music by Mr. Dave Stamper and Mr. Frederick Chappelle. Miss Shirley Kellogg will have the leading part.

A Record for Bristol.

The winter season at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, which is this week closed for pantomime preparations, has established records for the Park-row house. The Doyly Carte week robbed "The Merry Widow" of the record for a week's takings for the house, and "Young England" broke the record there for its provincial tour up to that point. Repeatedly there have been capacity houses both at matinées and evening performances, yet at practically every matinée the directors have entertained wounded soldiers when the seats could easily have been sold.

A Super-Ballet.

Mr. James C. Logan, who is an old Bristolian, is now busy rehearsing for "Old King Cole" pantomime, which is to embrace a "super-ballet." It is understood that the controller regards the effects as quite sweet!

Pantomime Revival at the "Brit."

The old Brit. is going to return to pantomime, and I understand that the traditions of the old house will be maintained. A six weeks' season will start on Saturday next. "Cinderella" being given for the first four weeks, followed by one week of "Mother Goose" and one of "Beauty and the Beast." The house will be run twice nightly, with matinées every afternoon for the first week.

"Romance's" Touring Records.

"Romance" has now established a record for phenomenal business on a tour that has gone on continuously since July 16, 1916. The tour is practically booked out for 1918; already 1919 is being booked; and it is the desire of Messrs. Murray King and Charles Clark to continue the run in the provinces without a break until at least 1920.

Almost the whole of the original company remain in their old parts. Miss Frances Dillon, who has already made a striking success in the part of Madame Cavallini, during a month's engagement on the present "Romance" tour early in the year, has been re-engaged to resume the character in the provinces, commencing at Christmas. Mr. Frank Freeman is still the young Rector, Thomas Armstrong; Mr Frank Lacy, the New York banker, Van Tuyl, parts in which both have created a great impression on tour.

The second Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, "Romance" season commences on Jan. 28 next, when it is hoped "Romance" will beat its former "run" of seven weeks at Miss Horniman's popular and artistic theatre.

A Farcical Coincidence.

Mr. Yourke Challenor, who has been doing the business management for his brother at the Kingsway Theatre, has been secured by Miss Archbutt to play the part of Marcel in "Oh! I Say." Here we have two brothers both playing James Welch parts.

Opera at Liverpool.

On Boxing afternoon, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Mr. W. W. Kelly inaugurates another remarkable opera season. On this occasion the season, of 18 weeks' duration, is to be provided by the H. B. Phillips company.

"Cinderella," a fine pantomime production, is to be the special Christmas attraction at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead. The pantomime is the offering of Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery, whose expert knowledge of the making of Christmas annuals is the product of long experience and acute perception of what the public likes and enjoys. It will be produced on Boxing Day afternoon, Dec. 26.

THE DRUID.

"THE LAST STRAW."

Farce-comedy, in Three Acts, by Eliot Stannard, from the original of E. P. Clift and Herbert Darnley, Produced at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Monday, Dec. 10.

Archibald Templeton ....Henry Oscar
Captain Richard Cholmondeley ....Percival Keitley
Mr. Wilberforce ..... Martin Sands
Emile Carlo Caroni ..Lionel D'Aragon
Valentino ..... Alan H. Leamy
Lord Popplebury .....Ivan Leslie
Horatio .....Arthur Walcott
Marmaduke ..... Fred Plinge
Kitty Wilberforce .....Muriel Reddal
Marion Wilberforce ..Mendie Grayson
Mrs. Galpin .....Phœbe Hodgson
Mrs. Trimmer .....Mary Brough
Sarah .....Betty Strange Winter
Miss Pinkerton .....Dora le Grand

"The Last Straw" contains many genuine laughs. Archibald Templeton, a romantic poet and author is secretly engaged to Kitty, the pretty, vivacious daughter of a fat, wealthy, designing person named Wilberforce. Learning of the attachment, the irate father appears at Templeton's lodging, denounces the aspiring author in good round terms, and, after pushing his fat fist into the face of the timorous poet, tucks his wayward daughter under his arm, carries her bodily out of the house and determines to take her at once on board his yacht the Hirondelle. Poor Templeton's books, plays, and poems have all failed to attract, and, thinking the removal of his Kitty the last straw, he makes up his mind to take the "short cut" out. He confides his dismal thoughts to a stranger, Carlo Caroni, president of the brotherhood for the removal of tyrants, but the author's courage forsakes him, and he is most anxious to live and evade the brotherhood. He assumes the disguise of an old man, and, getting safely to Folkestone, unknowingly boards the Hirondelle. He is mistaken for a brain specialist engaged by Mr. Wilberforce to treat his wilful daughter, and, revealing his identity to Kitty, his conduct of the case is most extraordinary, but apparently very effective. Found out, he escapes and gets back to London, and finally all is forgiven and forgotten, and Archie marries Kitty.

Mr. Henry Oscar as Archbald Templeton enacted a long, arduous part in the true spirit of farce; Mr. Martin Sands did capital work as the Spartan father; Carlo Caroni was played with point and distinction by Mr. Lionel D'Aragon; Mr. Percy Keitley as Captain Cholmondeley and Mr. Ivan Leslie as Lord Popplebury both gave clever delineations of their respective characters; Mr. Alan H. Leamy played with individuality and feeling the rôle of Valentino; while Horatio and Marmaduke were well acted by Mr. Arthur Walcott and Mr. Fred Plinge. Miss Mary Brough's work as Mrs. Trimmer, of the boarding-house, was delightfully clever; Miss Muriel Reddal was a charming and girlish Kitty; Miss Mendie Grayson a pleasing Marion; Miss Phœbe Hodgson an effective Mrs. Galpin; and Miss Betty Strange Winter an inimitably funny servant, Sarah.

THE PROFESSION WITH THE COLOURS

Corporal Harry Mendell, Loyal North Lancashire, writes that he is in hospital, having stopped one from Fritz. This is his first "Blighty" after eighteen months in France. Harry, who was first violin (leader) for Mr. Robert Courtneidge tours for seven years, also for Geo. Edwardes for six years, has been recommended for the Military Medal for bringing in four wounded. He would much appreciate a line from friends. His address may be had on application to the Editor of "The Era."

Alec Regan (L./Cpl. C. T. Wickenden) has obtained special leave to work this week at the Metropolitan and next week at the Wood Green Empire. The leave was specially granted by his G.O.C. in consideration of his having given up such a lot of his spare evenings for the entertaining of the Tommies in his and surrounding camps. Mr. Regan will be glad to hear from or see any of his old professional friends during his leave.

George Lockhart, son of the late George Lockhart, of Lockhart's Elephants fame, is in hospital, and he will be pleased to hear from any friends. His address is No. 35,910 Pte. G. Lockhart, 1/5 Yorks. and Lancs., 54 General Hospital, A.P.C. Section 38, B.E.F., France

Additions to the Thespian Roll of Honour which we regret to have to chronicle are those of Trooper William Pateman Forster, son of Mr. Luke Forster, who was killed in action on November 8, and Terence O'Hara, who died of wounds received in action on November 24.

Lieut. Horace Gumpert, 2/8 Worcester Regiment, late of the Alban Limpus "Bella Donna" and "Land of Promise" companies, has been gassed, and is lying in Ward C4, Third London General Hospital, Wandsworth, S.W. He would be very pleased to hear from any old friends.

Corporal Spence (George Franklin, late of Harry Day's revue, "Frolics") is running canteen concerts in a barracks in the London district every Wednesday night, and would be very grateful if any well-known artiste would give a turn for the boys, who spend their last night in England before going to France. He wishes to thank Miss Lillie Langtry, Miss Mildred Maude, "Pimple," Leo Bliss, Warner the vent., Claude Lester, and others for recently appearing. Also, if anyone has an old back cloth to spare, Corporal Spence can repaint it. His address may be had on application to the Editor.

Signaller Harry Tynan, writing from India, says:—"Since I have been here I have written one or two one-act comedies, all of which I have produced with success. I had an offer from a big Indio syndicate to produce one in Bombay, but was unable to procure leave from my depot for a long enough period. I should be grateful for a few wigs, pierrot costumes, grease paint, monologues, or any handy little props for entertainments to cheer up our wounded. Signaller Tynan's address may be had on application to the Editor.

Mr. Arthur L. Klein writes:—"While thanking you for the reference to myself in last Wednesday's 'Era' in connection with the music for the production of 'The Wonder Tales' at the Ambassadors Theatre, in justice to the composer, I shall be glad if you will correct the statement that it was to be from my pen. Mr. Fagan commissioned me to write the music for the play, but I had to decline."

THE ERA ANNUAL

50th (Jubilee) Year of Publication

Will contain among many New Features the following:—

TREE AS I KNEW HIM. By T. P. O'Connor.
DOES THE MAN IN THE STREET LIKE SHAKESPEARE? By Ben Greet.
CAN ENGLISH GIRLS DANCE? By Adeline Genée.
ROMANTIC PLAYS IN THE FUTURE. By Doris Keane.
DO AUDIENCES KNOW TOO MUCH? By Weedon Grossmith.
PROPS. FOR THE FRONT. By Willy Clarkson.
VIEWS ON INTERVIEWS. By Nora Delany.
STARS I HAVE IMITATED. By Robert Hale.
ACTING BETWEEN THE ACTS. By Matheson Lang.
WORDS ON WAR-PLAYS. By Arthur Bourchier.
THE SINGLE TURN'S RETURN. By Marie Lloyd.
HOW ACTORS GET "COPY." By Irene Vanbrugh.
THE WOES OF THE FUNNY MAN. By W. H. Berry.
MUSIC IN 1917. By Kate Searle.
THE PARIS STAGE IN 1917.
THE AMERICAN THEATRE IN 1917.

Owing to paper shortage the Edition will be limited; therefore, to secure a copy, please fill up the following Form and post to The Manager, The Era, Wellington Street, London, W.C. 2 at once.

Please supply One Copy of THE ERA ANNUAL, 1918, as soon as published, for which I enclose P.O. value **1/8.**

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THE PROFESSION & WAR CHARITIES.

SPLENDID EFFORTS AT LIVERPOOL.

The Mersey city was one of those which quickly got into its stride for war charities, and no part of the community was readier on the scene than members of the theatrical profession. When the first batches of wounded rolled in from France the numbers of patients in the Liverpool hospitals quickly increased, and then arose a suggestion to provide means for the men's entertainment. Mr Frank Allen, managing director of Moss' Empires, was among the earliest to provide such a want, and during the last three years he has invited artistes engaged at the Empire and the Olympia to visit the great Highfield Military Hospital every Thursday afternoon to provide the "Tommies" with amusement. Columns alone could be written on this subject, but it is only necessary to say that not once have our disabled heroes been disappointed. Members of the theatrical and music-hall professions, from the highest to the smallest, have tumbled over each other to appear at these excellent shows, and have been quite repaid by the overwhelming thanks they have received from their delighted audiences. Through Mr. Allen's interest over £5,000 have been raised in matinées at his halls in the city, and £1,000 in pence collections, while only recently a record matinée for the provinces of £1,000 was achieved in aid of the fund for giving our wounded trips on the beautiful Mersey during the three summers. Then, again, under the able management of Mr. E. W. James, of the Olympia, concerts have been given at the Exchange Station Hotel in connection with such trips. In addition, great numbers of wounded men have, during the three years, been granted regular admission to all the Liverpool theatres. At the Olympia £500 was raised by the profession for the Blinded Heroes Fund, £685 for the Prince of Wales's Fund (in September, 1914, the first matinée in the country), and only last week £800 for the Soldier-Journalists' Fund. On all these occasions thousands of men in uniform were present, their tickets of admission being bought by the outside public, while private gentlemen freely lent their cars to bring the men from the hospitals. Last Christmas the Olympia collected £100 for plum puddings for the men at the front, and that is only one of the houses controlled by Moss' Empires where similar work was done. It may be mentioned that Mr. Frank Allen has raised through his theatres over £11,000 for the St. Dunstan's Home for Blinded Soldiers.

For all these efforts those in authority have been very grateful. Mr. E. W. James, who had taken a foremost part in such movements, has had numerous expressions of gratitude from the civic authorities. Lord Mayor Mather sent him a signed photo "as a memento of the kind assistance he had rendered him during his year of office, for which he would be ever grateful."

A record of the efforts of Mr. W. W. Kelly, the "hustler," would alone occupy considerable space. He and his devoted wife, Miss Edith Cole, have laboured unceasingly throughout the last three years. Mr. Kelly has not only enlisted the help of the profession, but has "put his hand down" in generous manner, and must feel that anyone in Liverpool who has devoted more hours and trouble to the great charitable cause must have been out of bed longer. He has been prominent among many flag-day efforts, which have resulted in thousands of pounds being realised.

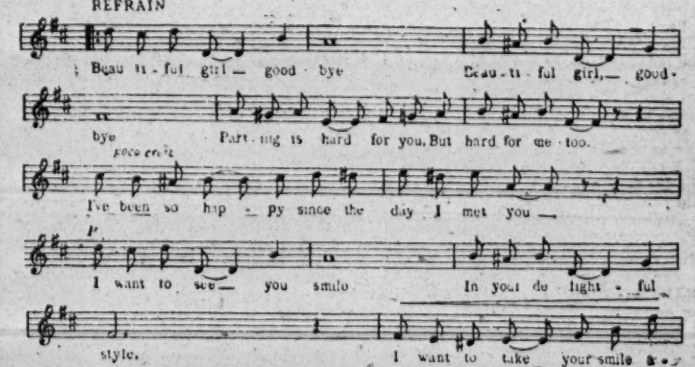
At the request of Lord Derby, music hall artistes entertained 1,000 of the Dockers' Battalion in St. George's Hall last Christmas; and assistance was given by the stage to the "Liverpool Courier" fund for providing cinemas for the Grand Fleet, a splendid idea, which secured nearly £2,000, while innumerable sums have been collected by the theatre attendants at nearly every place of amusement and the cinemas, resulting in thousands of pounds being got hold of. That warm-hearted comedian, George Robey, on his visits to Liverpool, has worked hard for charity, realising big sums by his auction sales on the Exchange flags and attendance at football matches. Mr. D. J. Clarke, of the famous Argyle, the Royal Court Theatre, Shakespeare, and other houses have all done their bit, and a good bit too, and entertained great numbers of men.

PANTOMIME

A SPLENDID PRINCIPAL BOY NUMBER

MY BEAUTIFUL GIRL

Words HAROLD TIVEY. Music FREDERICK W. CHAPPELLE.


REFRAIN
Beau-ti-ful girl— good bye
Beau-ti-ful girl,— good-
bye
Part-ing is hard for you. But hard for me too.
I've been so hap-py since the day I met you—
I want to see— you smile
In your de-light-ful
style.
I want to take your smile a-

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"ERA" FINANCIAL SECTION.

BY OUR FINANCIAL EXPERT.

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Business in amusement shares generally remained on a very restricted scale during the past week, little of interest developing, investors appearing to concentrate all their interest in War Bonds, which is not surprising. Quite apart from the patriotic duty which demands that all having spare funds should lend it to the State, the attraction is the handsome dividend thus obtained, and a knowledge of the absolute security of the invested capital.

Birmingham Theatre Royal 10s. Ordinary shares are marked up a fraction owing to inquiries, but without many shares changing hands. London Theatres of Varieties Preference shares, which a short time ago were marked up after some set-back in the quotation, are once again well to the front, and are quoted 15s. to 16s., rather buyers. The only other "marking" worthy of note is the improved quotation for the £5 Ordinary shares of the Oxford, Ltd., now quoted either side of 70s.

G. A.

CURRENT MARKET QUOTATIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL THEATRE MUSIC HALL AND CINEMA COMPANIES' SHARES.

The following Quotations, made up to Tuesday morning in each week are supplied to us by Messrs. Keith, MacAllister and Co., Ltd., 53a, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.

Alhambra (London) £1 Ord.	1—1¼	London Th. of Var. £1 Ord.	3/—6/-
„ 4th Deb. (1912)	80—85	„ £1 7% Cum. Pref.	15/—16/-
Assoc. Prov. Pic. Houses £1 Ord	4/9—5/9	Manchester Hippo. £5 Ord.	5¼—5¾
„ £1 6% Non-Cum. Pref.	⅞—1	„ 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	65—70
B.B. Pictures £1 10% Cum. Pref.	8/—9/-	Manchester Pal. of Var. £10rd.	1⅞—1¾
Biograph Ths. 10s. "B" Ord.	1/—1/6	„ 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	90—9-
Birmingham Th. Royal 10/- Ord.	¼—⅜	Manchester Th. Royal £10 Ord.	7¾—8¼
„ 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	65—70	Moss' Empires £5 Ord.	4—4⅛
Coliseum £1 Ord.	3—3¼	„ £5 5% Cum. Pref.	5⅛—35⅝
„ £1 6% Non Cum. Pref.	⅞—1	National Elec. Th. 10s. Ord.	6/6—7/6
„ 5½% 1st Mort. Debs.	95—100	Oxford £5 Ord.	3⅝—⅝
Croydon Hip. 6% 1st Mort. Debs.	48—50	Palace Theatre 10s. Ord. (9s. pd.)	12/—13/-
Empire £1 Ord. (10s. pd.)	9/6—10/6	Piccadilly Cir. Cin. Th. £1 Ord.	1—1¼
„ £1 Ord. (15s. pd.)	⅛—¼	Picture Th. Finl. Trust £10 7½% Partic. Deb. Bond	9¾—10¾
Gaiety Theatre £1 Ord.	⅛—¼	Provl. Cin. Th. £1 Ord.	26/6—27/6
Glasgow Alhambra £1 Ord.	2½—2¾	„ „ £1.7½% "A" Pref.	1—1⅛
„ Pavilion £1 Ordy.	2½—3	„ „ £1.7½% "B" Pref.	17/6—18/6
Hackney & Shep. Bush £5 Ord.	2¾—3¼	Robert Arthur Th. Co., 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	78—8
„ £5 6% Cum. Pref.	3⅛—3⅝	Sheffield & Dis. Cin. Th. 10s. Ord.	1—1⅛
„ 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	60—70	Th. Royal (Drury Lane) £1 Ord. (15s. pd.)	9/—10/-
Howard & Wyndham £5 Ord.	4¾—4¾	United Theatres £5 Ord.	2—2¼
„ £5 5% Cum. Pref.	3½—3¼	„ „ £5 5% Cum. Pref.	2½—3
Leicester Pal. Th. £5 Ord.	4⅝—4⅞	Victoria Palace 10s. Ord.	21/—22/- x
London Pav. £5 Ord.	13⅛—13⅝		
„ „ £5 6% Cum. Pref.	2¼—3		

DECEMBER 18, 1917.

(Subject to market fluctuations).

x = ex dividend.

Keith, MacAllister & Co., Ltd.,
INVESTMENT BROKERS (INCORPORATED 1908),
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MUSIC HALL LADIES' GUILD MATINEE.

The annual matinée of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild was held at the Victoria Palace, lent by Mr. Alfred Butt, on Monday last. The presence of Her Majesty the Queen, Princess Mary, and Princess Alice at the performance was a gracious tribute to the promoters, and a splendid acknowledgment of the work of the Guild. The organisers, Mrs. Coborn and Miss Lottie Albert, are to be congratulated upon their great success. It would be difficult to have arranged a more representative music hall programme or a more varied one. A great welcome was given to Mr. Charles Coborn, and his "Two Lovely Black Eyes" was eagerly taken up by the audience. Miss Irene Vanbrugh gave a dignified rendering of W. E. Henley's rousing lines, "England, My England," and the attractive musical act of the Feminé Quartette was greatly enjoyed. Mr. Nelson Keys's best contribution was a silent sketch of Mr. Gerald du Maurier, given as an encore. Miss Marie Dainton scored heavily with her study of Miss Doris Keane in "Romance." Mr. Bransby Williams gave one of Mr. Ridgwell Collum's poems with fine dramatic effect. Miss Margaret Cooper sang two delicious songs at the piano. Mr. R. G. Knowles was very popular with his stories; and equally successful was Coram and his droll recruit, Jerry. Tom Clare revived the favourite "Cohen at the Telephone"; and Mr. Jack Holgelly introduced "Lucky," the human dog.

An interesting feature of the afternoon was the sale by auction, with Mr. Gerald du Maurier as auctioneer, of the edition de luxe of the "Admirable Crichton," on the fly-leaf of which are signatures of all the actors and actresses who took part in the gala performance of the play at the Coliseum. After some spirited bidding the sum of £35 was realised; and £12 was received for the Hassall drawing which adorned the programme.

During the afternoon Mrs. Coborn spoke of the work of the Guild, and expressed their thanks for the generous help that had been given by the artistes, organisers, printers, and the general public who had subscribed to the funds.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT" AGAIN.

A cordial and hearty reception was given to "Charley's Aunt" by a large audience on its rearrival in London for another Christmas season at the St. James's on Saturday afternoon last. The older generation of playgoers welcome the famous comedy with a sense of happy memories, and the youngsters will revel in the clean fun and quaint humour which arise out of the embarrassing situations in which the old lady lands herself. Mr. Kenneth Kent enters thoroughly into the spirit of the part, and causes no end of fun. Mr. W. Barry O'Brien and Mr. Marsh Allen as Charles Wykeham and Jack Chesney respectively are admirably suited. Mr. James E. Paye is irresistibly humorous as Spettigue, and Colonel Chesney is played to the manner born by Mr. J. R. Crauford. Mr. Sydney Compton's portaitue of Brassett is a very fine piece of work. Miss Amy Brandon-Thomas is as pretty and fascinating as ever as Kitty Verdun; Miss Ada Ferrar as Donna Lucia is very good; and Miss Edna Best and Miss Marjorie Chard acquit themselves with every credit as Ella Delahey and Amy Spettigue respectively. The ladies' dresses are tasteful and artistic. Two performances are being given daily.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The orchestral concert given at Queen's Hall last Friday by the Trinity College Orchestra was notable for a polished, beautifully clear performance of Schubert's "Unfinished" symphony, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Ivimey, who has only lately assumed the conductorship. But, indeed, throughout the afternoon the orchestra's playing was most praiseworthy and enjoyable, both in the purely orchestral things—which, besides the symphony, included Schumann's "Genoveva" and Nicolai's "Merry Wives of Windsor" overtures—and in the accompaniments. Their work was excellent, for instance, in the Allegro con brio from Beethoven's B flat Pianoforte Concerto (No. 2, Op. 19), in which the solo part was cleverly palyed by Miss Eveline Davy; and in Elgar's "Where Corals Lie," sung by Miss Isobel Radford, whose beautiful contralto voice has a good range of fine low tone. Distinguished among the other soloists were Mr. Joseph Coleman, a violinist with a pure, fresh tone and finished execution, who was heard in Saint-Saëns' "Introduction and Rondo Capriccio"; and Miss Lilian B. Cook, a very youthful flautiste, who played a couple of solos by Georges Dorlay with really notable skill.

MR. STERLING MACKINLAY'S PUPILS.

Mr. Sterling MacKinlay and his pupils gave a concert performance of German's melodious light opera, "Moon Fairies," at the Æolian Hall on Wednesday evenink last. It is not so long since the Sterling MacKinlay Operatic Society staged the work at the King's Hall—and very enjoyable performances those were. Naturally, an opera, and particularly a comic opera, loses a good deal of its effect when deprived of its stage setting; but, on the other hand, the concert form allows of wider distribution of the solo parts, and this, when promising pupils are many, is a consideration. Most of the singers on Wednesday night were able to make good use of their opportunities, particularly Miss Boutall in "Triumphant I," Miss Dalby in "With All the Misery," Miss Penney in "Poor Purblind, Wayward Youths," Miss Reville in "I Never Profess," and Mrs. Bourne and Miss Rumbelow in "And Now to Summon Them," among the ladies; while the men's parts were allotted to Mr. Arthur P. Brown and Bombr. Milton Stanley, who were excellent in the duet, "By God and Men"; and to Mr. Albert C. Tarrant, whose delivery of "Suppose You Take," and the rest of the humorous numbers were full of point and effect. The chorus work was admirable. Mr. Sterling MacKinlay conducted, and Miss Lucas was the accompanist. The proceeds from the concert were devoted to St. Dunstan's.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The concert given by the orchestral students of the Royal Academy of Music at Queen's Hall on the 11th inst., while not allowing that capable body of players opportunities for distinction in purely orchestral pieces, once more proved their ability in the equally important branch of accompanying work. Under the direction of Sir A. C. Mackenzie, their excellent balance and finished phrasing called for praise in the performances—to name but a few out of the long programme—of the First Movement from Tschaikovsky's Violin Concerto, in which the solo was played by a very youthful violiniste, Miss Dorothy Chalmers, whose thoroughly workmanlike playing won her much applause; of the Allegro from Beethoven's Concerto in E flat (Op. 73), which brought forward a capable pianist in Mr. Bryden Monteith; and of Stanford's "Concert Variations," in which the pianoforte part was played with crispness and vivacity by Miss Nettie Thomson.

The singing was a pleasant feature of the concert. The duet from "Aida" showed both Miss Norah Turner, a rich-voiced soprano, and Miss Edith Bartlett, a promising contralto, to much advantage; and Miss Marguerite Lister, whose pure tones are of the right type for oratorio work, was equally well suited in "Let the Bright Seraphim." During the afternoon some pleasant new songs, by two clever student composers, Messrs. Arthur L. Sandford and Edmund T. Jenkins, were successfully introduced by Miss Rene Blackie and Miss Thelma Howarth.

A huge crowd welcomed a number of American Army and Naval officers at the Five Provinces of Ireland Club, Russell-square, on Sunday, when several talented artistes were secured for their entertainment. Among those who contributed to a capital programme were Bessie Carr, A. Newbold, Laura Delman, Rita Gallaly, Leonora Radcliffe, Miss O'Sullivan (violinist), Owen Collyer, Kate Hubbart, and W. Redwood. Representatives of the American Embassy were also present, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

THEATRICAL LADIES' TEA PARTY.

Like all the shows engineered by the profession, the Theatrical Ladies' Guild Tea Patry, held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on the 11th inst., was both an out-and-out jolly affair, as well as a huge financial success. Early and late the hall was thronged with crowds eager to be "tea'd" and fed by, and to rub shoulders (literally) with, celebrities of the stage. Stalls and side shows did a roaring trade. You could lay in a stock of Christmas presents for your long-suffering male friends at Miss Eva Moore and Mr. H. V. Esmond's tobacco-pouch and cigarette-case stall, or, over at the "Fancy Stall" opposite; provide for your feminine dittoes' varying needs with powder-puffs and pots of "day cream" and "night cream." At the flower stall, a kind of glorified cage of filigree work, Miss Madge Titheradge, Miss Fay Compton, and Miss Gwendoline Brogden soon sold out their store, and near at hand signed photos of popular actors and beautiful actresses were being disposed of by the dozen by Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Marie Löhr, Mr. Owen Nares, Mr. Ben Webster, and Mr. Dennis Eadie.

No end of fun—for the "fish"—was to be had at Miss Phyllis Broughton and Mr. G. P. Huntley's Fish Pond, where perspiring sportsmen and sportswomen wore themselves out in a vain endeavour to insert unbusiness-like hooks under the tight strings of tantalising, nobbly parcels at a bob or so a time. You could see your silhouette cut—painlessly—while you waited, by Mr. Harry Grattan, or have your character read—if you had the pluck—by Mrs. O'Gorman.

In the tea-room "rock" cakes and the cheering cup were served out by a small army of hosts and hostesses, among whom were Lady Alexander, Lady Hare, Mlle. Adeline Genée, Mrs. Kendal, Mr. Matheson Lang, Lady Forbes Robertson, Lady Wyndham, Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Lillah McCarthy, Mr. H. B. Irving, and Colonel Robert Loraine, what time a ladies' orchestra, under Miss Vickers, discoursed merry music.

In the hall upstairs was given the first performace (by kind permission of the Ideal Film Renting Co.) of the all-star cinema version of "The Gay Lord Quex," a beautiful production, "featuring" Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and Mr. Ben Webster.

The clou of the afternoon, of course, was the distribution of presents from the giant Christmas tree, and the "auction." The "Doris Keane," "George Robey," and "Irene Vanbrugh" dolls were put up for sale by their respective representatives in the flesh. For £5 Miss Vanbrugh bought in Robey, who sold himself. Put up for sale again, he fetched six, and so did the Irene. Both were bought by Miss Mabel Russell. And Miss Doris Keane became the lucky possessor of herself in exchange for a "fiver."

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Pupils of Mr. Paul Berton acquitted themselves admirably at the dramatic recital given at the School on Wednesday afternoon. The programme included the little coster playlet, by Edward Granville, entitled "'Enery Brown." 'Enery is beloved by Liza Jane, a typical rough diamond of the coster world, and Amelia Amarilda, her more gentle and yielding prototype. The girls quarrel over his ownership, but in the end Liza's sporting instinct declares itself, and she voluntarily abdicates in favour of her more fortunate rival. The piece was capitally played by Miss Ivy Dodman, an arresting Liza, and Miss Lillian Webb, a wistful, sentimental, dreamy Amelia.

In "The Peacemaker" (E. M. Bryant's clever comedietta) honours easily rested with Miss Margery Howe, who contributed a sweet, womanly performance of Elizabeth Lavender, her refined and pleasing voice and manner winning all hearts, and Mr. Francis Cam, an easy, natural Dr. Burton; Misses Muriel Beale and Beatrice Weatherley and Mr. H. Rowland Hodgson lending adequate support.

In a scene from "Romeo and Juliet" Miss Lilian Addenbrooke gave a taste of her quality as Juliet, supported by Miss Aimee Williamson as the Nurse, Miss Phyllis Russ (who acted as stage manageress), and Mr. A. E. Dodds.

An excerpt from "You Never Can Tell," Bernard Shaw's clever play, proved Miss Russ's versatility, as she appeared as the dentist, Valentine, Miss Daphne Russ and Edna Francis also enacting parts. The entertainment concluded with J. B. Fagan's "The Fourth of August," in which Marjorie Claridge scored as Tina Froller, supported by Mr. Francis Cam, C. E. A. Dodds, Paul Berton as Baron von Hohenstein, H. R. Hodgson, and Frank Hodgson. Miss Lilian Smee also recited.

PRESENTATION TO MAJOR MACKENZIE ROGAN.

A desire has been expressed that fitting recognition should be made of the conclusion of fifty years' service in the Army of Major J. Mackenzie Rogan, M.V.O., Director of Music of the Coldstream Guards, and that an appreciation of his public professional work during that long period should be put on record.

Major Mackenzie Rogan's absences while on duty with the Guards Division in France have hitherto prevented the project from being carried out. A large and representative committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Alexander C. Mackenzie, has, however, now been formed for the purpose of carrying it into effect, and it has been decided that a presentation should be made at a concert at the Queen's Hall on Thursday afternoon, Jan. 31, when a congratulatory address in album form, containing the signatures of all subscribers, will be presented.

The executive committee which has in hand the arrangements for the presentation, consists of Lady Randolph Churchill, Lady Maud Warrender, Mr. Arthur Croxton, Mr. Arthur Fagge (hon. secretary), Mr. Henry Mills, L.C.C., Mr. Pett Ridge, and Sir Alexander C. Mackenzie, 15, Regent's Park-road, N.W. 1, who will be glad to receive contributions to the fund.

Mr. Julian Clifford, the brilliant English pianist, reappeared at the Pump Room Concerts, Bath, last Thursday. At the evening concert he met with a great ovation at the close of playing his own melodious concerto with orchestra; as an encore he played for the first time in public a new march and study composed by himself.

THE LATE FRED STOREY.

When announcement was made some days ago of the death of Mr. Fred Storey, considerable doubt was expressed regarding its accuracy, as some two years ago he had to contradict a report, widely circulated, that he had joined the great majority. Mr. Storey died on the 4th inst. at Blockley, Worcestershire. Born in London June 20, 1856, he was the eldest son of the late Major W. F. Storey, Royal Lancashire Fusiliers, and the nephew of G. A. Storey, R.A. The only lessons he had in painting were those he taught himself when visiting his uncle's studio in St. John's Wood. He made his first appearance on the stage at the old Prince of Wales's on September 29, 1877, with the Bancrofts, in a first piece, "To Parents and Guardians." After some touring experiences, he next played at the Park, Camden Town, Christmas, 1878, in "Ali Baba," making his mark in the "legmania" business that he afterwards brought to such perfection. At Christmas, 1879, he acted in pantomime at the Crystal Palace, and at Drury Lane in April, 1880, appeared in "La Fille de Madame Angot"; in July, 1880, played Jorkins in "The World," and at Christmas, 1880, acted as Rifum Tifum in "Mother Goose." He then toured with the Girards, reappearing at Drury Lane in pantomime, 1882, as the Nondescript in "Sinbad the Sailor," and 1883 as General Sharpwitz in "Cinderella." Various engagements followed. For the late George Edwardes he went to Australia, producing and arranging the dances for "Esmeralda," "Monte Cristo," and other pieces, besides playing Quasimodo and other characters as they offered. In America, Mr. Storey played Mr. Leslie's part of Claude Frollo. On his return to London and the Gaiety, Mr. Storey played the Doctor in "Ruy Blas," and understudied Fred Leslie. Later he played Rip van Winkle in pantomime, and decided to play the part in a drama which was produced at the Kennington Theatre in November, 1899, and later—on May 30, 1900—at Her Majesty's. In a revival of "The Merchant of Venice" at the Royalty about 11 years ago he appeared as Shylock. A very clever scenic artist, Mr. Storey painted scenery for a number of notable productions.

"SPIRITUALISM AND THE STAGE."

The subject occupying the attention of the Playgoers' Club on Sunday evening last, "Spiritualism and the Stage," arose out of the discussion which followed the recent lecture on "The Thirteenth Chair." Mr. Ernest Meads having aroused a good deal of interest on that occasion by several speeches, was invited to give a fuller expression of his views and knowledge of the subject. An interested audience, with Mr. Harry Hart, an excellent chairman, listened with rapt attention to the finely delivered lecture.

Mr. Meads is at present a member of the valiant band of enthusiasts which is keeping the light of Shakespearean drama burning at the Old Vic. He is besides a convinced spiritualist, and is naturally particularly interested in the subject from the point of view of his work. In his lecture he attempted to deduce from the history of the evolution of art the artist's dependance upon something outside himself. Ideas come in a flash of inspiration, not when they are expected, but after the mind has been trained and made receptive. Nor is the inspiring influence confined to serious work. Mr. Meads told of a striking personal experience at a series of séances, when the spirit of Joey Grimaldi appeared, through a medium, and cracked the late Dan Leno's jokes and quips in the famous comedian's manner. At the time Leno was seriously ill, and Grimaldi foretold the time and manner of his death exactly.

After emphasising the danger of complete obsession in a part, using the case of Charles Warner as "Coupeau" in "Drink," the lecturer told of a number of personal interviews, through mediums, usually in the open air, with the spirits of departed actors, and particularly referred to William Wycherley, who died two hundred years ago. The spirit of Wycherley, he maintained, had been his guide and inspiration for many years, helping him in his work and exhorting him to use his gift for the highest possible value to mankind.

"A LITTLE BIT OF FLUFF."

Not the least sign of staleness was to be detected by the closest observer in the company who, on Wednesday afternoon, at the Criterion Theatre, performed this wonderfully successful farce for the one thousandth time. The piece, which has been played nine times weekly ever since Oct., 1915, went just as merrily as at the first representation.

Both the principal and the subordinate characters are played in the genuine spirit of farcical comedy. With unabated energy and vim Mr. Richard Cooper continues to play the part of John Ayers, the husband whose "night out" leads to such amusing results; and Mr. Ernest Thesiger, in the part of the hardly used Bertram Tully, is responsible for much merriment. Quite perfect in their way are the sketches of character presented by Mr. Stanley Lathbury as Nixon Trippett, the inquiry officer, and Mr. Alfed Drayton as Dr. Bigland, the investigating medico. Miss Joan Challoner cleverly co-operates in the scheme of amusement by her capital portrayal of the suspicious wife, Mrs. Ayers; and Miss Billy Sinclair neatly hits off the peculiarities of the damsel who gives the title to the play Miss Kitty Barlow is a capital Aunt Hannah; Miss Violet Gould, by her embodiment of Ursula, Tully's housekeeper, shows how really amusing a minor rôle can be made; and Miss Muriel Kidner, as the maid Chalmers, completes a cast in which there is no weak spot.

West End theatre managers will learn with regret that Mr. Richard Thomas Kingham died at Eastbourne on the 1st inst. Mr. Kingham joined the London General Omnibus Co. in 1855, and was secretary for 30 years, viz., until 1908, when the amalgamation took place with the London Road Car Company and the "Vanguard" Motor-Bus Company. The secretaryship was then taken over by Mr. J. C. Mitchell, who is now the treasurer of the allied companies comprising the underground group. Mr. Kingham was in charge of the advertising department of the London General Omnibus Company for several years prior to his retirement in 1912, and was very well known to the theatre managers with whom he came in contact.

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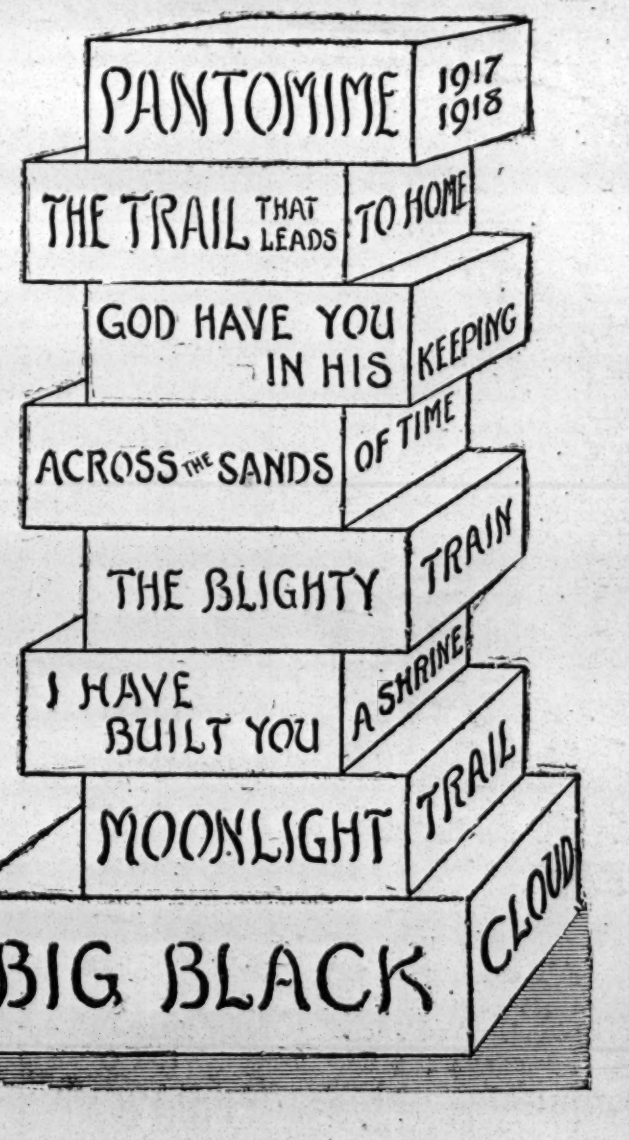
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PROVINCIAL NEWS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

[Correspondents are urged kindly to send in with their next week's reports a full list, with the name of the responsible resident manager, of the places of amusement in their districts. Cinema theatres, with an indication as to whether variety turns form part of the programme, should be included.]

In order to effect a saving of space the following abbreviations are used in these columns:—P.: Proprietor. M.: Manager. G. M.: General Manager. C.: Chairman. R. M.: Resident Manager. A. M.: Acting Manager. Asst. M.: Assistant Manager. L.: Lessee. M. D., Managing Director. Mus. D.: Musical Director. S.: Secretary. M., Mr. T. E. Evans.—Miss Edith Panting presents "Jenny Omroyd of Oldham."

TIVOLI.—L., Signor Pepi; M., Mr. Rory Macs.—Marie Kendall, assisted by Myra McCarthy, Maud Edwards, The Three Creole Belles, Rosetti, O'Brien and Lady, Polly Perkins, and Ernie Ream.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. Fred Newman.—The American Jazzbo Singing Band, Archie O'Neill; Query, lady mystic; and pictures.

ACCRINGTON

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. J. H. Pollard.—The marvellous Fugi Family, in their speciality act; Nell and Nancy Greenan, vocalists; Zarazona, novelty act; the Australian Gold Diggers, in vocal poems; Shirley White, comedian; the Tees, speciality act; Frank Cass, comedian; and pictures complete.
Boots, The Chemists, 89-91, Blackburn-road.

ABERAVON

GRAND.—L., Messrs. Saunders Bros. and Boslin; M., Mr., Mr. J. Pelham Rayner.—Bee and Kingston, Johnny Dwyer, Charles Ancaster, George Dixon.
Boots, The Chemists, 2, Water-street.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS

ROYALTY.—L., Mr. Hugh Robertson; M., Mr. T. E. Evans.—Miss Edith Panting presents "Jenny Omroyd of Oldham."

TIVOLI.—L., Signor Pepi; M., Mr. Rory Macs.—Marie Kendall, assisted by Myra McCarthy, Maud Edwards, The Three Creole Belles, Rosetti, O'Brien and Lady, Polly Perkins, and Ernie Ream.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. Fred Newman.—The American Jazzbo Singing Band, Archie O'Neill; Query, lady mystic; and pictures.

CASTLEFORD

NEW ROYAL. — P., Messrs. Chas. Gadsby and Sons; L., Mr. Chas. Gadsby; B. M., Cr. Hy. Masterman, J.P., C.C.—Mr. E. Vivian Edmond's company is here with "The King's Romance" and "A Hidden Past."

QUEEN'S.—P., The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will H. Emerson.—Dickie Clare's pantomime is here with "Aladdin."

DERBY

GRAND.—P. and M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; B. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—Mr. Charles B. Cochran is presenting "The Better 'Ole" here.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. H. J. Garnham.—The star turn here is the musical comedy, "Over the Top," presented by Mr. H. Potterton.
Boots, The Chemists, 45-51, Peter-street; 147, London-road; 267, Normanton-road; 41, The Warwick; 15, St. James's-street.

DOVER

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; M., Mr. P. Howard Sturgess; M. C., Mr. F. Greenhalgh.—The Quartette of Novelty Banjoists; Fred Cooper, stock whip manipulator; and Miss Lily Swonnell, Australian baritone; Julian Vedey, Anglo-French comedian; Sandy White, at the piano; Bridson, musician-ventriloquist; the Glorians, character dancers; Rosie Gaston, character comedienne; Sisters Hula, comediennes and dancers.

KING'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Harry Day.—Miss Marion Pilcher.
Boots, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-street.

EASTBOURNE

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Kit-Tom's company, in "All Change Here."

DEVONSHIRE PARK WINTER GARDEN.—M. and Sec., Mr. E. A. Brown. Daily concerts by the Devonshire Park Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Norfolk Megone. Artistes: Pte. Darroll Richards, baritone; Mr. Arnold Stoker, baritone; and Mr. Joseph Colman, violinist.
Boots, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

GAINSBOROUGH

KING'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Hal Cummings.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company are here for three nights this week in "Her Mother's Crucifix."
Boots, The Chemists, 30, Market-place.

HANLEY

ROYAL.—P., Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—"Three Weeks" pays its first visit, with Miss Amy Coleridge as Queen Sonia.

GRAND.—P., Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Albert Bulmer.—Mr. Walter Bentley's revue, "Odds On," is on a return visit.
Boots, The Chemists, 24 and 26, Piccadilly.

HASTINGS

GAIETY. — M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Hilton.—The first three nights of the week "The Three Daughters of M. Dupont," produced by Mr. Leon M. Lion.
Boots, The Chemists, 17, 18, 19, Robertson-street; 61, George-street.

HUDDERSFIELD

PALACE.—P., Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—Frank and Vesta, dancers; Sisters Sprightly, burlesque artistes; Lucy Brennan, comedienne; Ray Collis, vocalist; Sydney Calland and Celine Hooper, in songs at the piano; Will Hanyar and Anna Lee, jugglers; The Olloms, in novelty; and Palace pictures.
Boots, The Chemists, 18, King-street.

HITCHIN

BLAKE'S THEATRE.—P., Blake Bros., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Chas. Locke.—Costa and Geo., in a comedy bar act; ex-Sergt. Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist; and pictures.

KING'S LYNN

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. F. H. Cooper; R. M., Mr. Gerald Balls.—Henry Dallass and Louis Casson's company in "The Marriage Market" opened to a full house on Monday. The piece is beautifully mounted, and the company are in all respects competent.
Boots, The Chemists, 43 and 44, High-st.

LEITH

ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. Henry Lees; A. M., Mr. J. Cousins; Mus. D., Mr. J. W. Middleton.—The pantomime, "Mother Hubbard," is the attraction here. The well-known Leith favourite, Peter Bermingham, in a prominent rôle, is warmly welcomed. Kindliest greetings are also extended to Miss Bertie Rex as the hero, Tom Tucker; to Harry Elliston, as the Dame; and to all included in a strong cast; while excellent scenery and choice costumes lend their aid to a pleasant entertainment.
Boots, The Chemists, 15, Leith-walk.

NEATH

GNOLL HALL.—P., The Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.—Freda Lawrence and Billie Bowie; Seymour Collins, comedian; and pictures.

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley.—Alf. Thomas, comedian; and pictures.
Boots, The Chemists, 56, Wind-street.

NEW BRIGHTON

TIVOLI.—D., Mr. Fred Willmot; G. M., Mr. F. F. Ross.—The Ten Tommies; Terence Byron and company, in "Simple Simon"; the Lannons; Rosie O'Neil; Bert Danson; Sylvia Davies; Takase; also pictures.
Boots, The Chemists, 10 and 12, King Edward-street.

NORTH SHIELDS

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Frank Liston's company, in "My Home in Kentucky."

BOROUGH.—P. and M., Messrs. Black Brothers; R. M., Mr. Phil Rabey.—The Four Its, vocalists and dancers; Bandmaster Morris, in musical act; Sisters Tremper, American equilibriste; and pictures.
Boots, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-street.

NUNEATON

HIPPODROME. — P., United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. R. Lynn.—Kenna Bros., Ragglio, Gallinos, Yetmah, May Lock, Jack Watson, The Nine Dainty Dots.
Boots, The Chemists, 11, Market-place.

OXFORD

NEW THEATRE.—P., Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. and S., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith.—Mr. Sydney Lester is presenting for four nights "A La Mode," a merry roundelay in Pierrotland. The artistes include Misses Marjorie Brookes, Doris Nelson, Vedric Lester, Edgar Carmen, Wynne Evelyn, Messrs. Monte Leslie, Max. Leigh, and Sydney Lester (humorist).
Boots, The Chemists, 1, Queen-street; and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PONTYPRIDD

NEW THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; M., Mr. C. Trenchard.—Messrs. J. Leicester Jackson and Charles Mepham present Miss Blanche St. Albans as Norah in "Her Little Bit of Heaven" and "Come Back to Erin"; also "East Lynne."
Boots, The Chemists, 86, Taff-street.

PORT TALBOT

NEW.—Joint L., Messrs. John-Evans and Vivian Aldridge; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; M., Mrs. Vivian Aldridge.—May Erne and Erne Chester; Miss Evéline Bailey; pictures.

REDDITCH

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Joseph Baron.—Miss Eva Elwes' company presents "The Cottage Girl."
Boots, The Chemists, 3, Evesham-street.

SALFORD

REGENT, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Bert Wright.—Moss' Empires, Ltd., present Albert De Courville's "Flying Colours."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry.—"The Bluff Boys," presented by Harry Ray and Lillie Calden.

SEACOMBE

SCALA.—L., Wallasey Empire Co.; G. M., Mr. John Gaffney; A. M., Mr. C. H. Hankinson.—William De-Lacy presents "A Daughter of the Slums."

SOUTHPORT

PALLADIUM.—M. D., Mr. D. J. Clarke.—George Mozart, Robert Reilly, Bob and Harry, Teddy and Iris, The Braks, The Brandons, Mary Leighton, Gaumont Graphic.

PIER PAVILION.—G. M., Mr. C. Barnes.—Dasie Morell, Arthur Page, Zona Fay, Ernesto, Niekerk, The Austin Sisters, Les Merzoffs.

STOCKPORT

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. William Swire; G. M., Mr. Harry Barker.—Mr. Fred Granville's company in "Another Man's Wife" and "At the Mercy of the Mormon."
Boots, The Chemists, 26, Bridge-street, Brow.

STIRLING

ALHAMBRA.—R. M., Mr. Jack M. Calder.—Jas. Houston and company in "The Flitting"; Harry Merrylees, Scotch comedian; Morris St. Clair, ventriloquist; Jean Kennedy, dancer; Geo. Rae, comedian.

STOKE-ON-TRENT

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; M., Mr. Jack H. Turner.—Jackson Owen presents the revue, "Happy Days."

VICTORIA.—M., Mr. L. Hodgkinson.—Dan Crew, Scotch comedian; and Minnie and Walley, dancers, supply the vaudeville items.
Boots, The Chemists, 3, Church-street.

SOUTHAMPTON

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston.—Sydney Bransgrove presents "Her Love Against the World," including Miss Lilah Bartlett as Iris.

PALACE. — R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Harry Taylor.—The company includes the royal magician, Rameses; Terris and Romaine, violinist and pianist; the Marvellous Jeffs, in comedy wire act; Ex-Lance-Corporal Gordon Brown, tenor; the Trents, in their skit, "Detective Copp"; Les Nosselas, in latest Parisian novelty; and the Lancashire sketch, "'Listing for a Soldier."

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley.—Albert De Courville's production, "Good-by-ee."
Boots, The Chemists, 84, High-street, Shirley; 97, East-street; 25, Above Bar; 103, St. Mary's-street; 107, Shirley-road; 29, London-road; 155, Bevois-hill.

STOCKTON

GRAND.—P., Alderman J. Batty; M., Mr. W. Batty.—Mr. Harry Korris' "Babes in the Wood" pantomime. Miss Rita Dilston, Robin Hood; Miss Connie Emmerson, Maid Marion; Miss Ethel Hadie, Gwendoline; Messrs. Joyce and Korris, Babes.

HIPPODROME.—P., North-Eastern Entertainments, Ltd.; D. M., Mr. G. Stainton.—Bell-Hattons, musical experts; Fred Dene, song scena; Marie Turner, contralto; Ex-Sergt. Tom Garland, conjurer and ventriloquist; Delvaine's Marionettes; Five Hollanders, Dutch vocal and dancing act; Gerard and Miss Hut-ell, dental and acrobatic act; and pictures.
Boots, The Chemists, 104 and 105, High-street.

SUNDERLAND

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; B. M., Mr. Richd. L. Griffiths.—Mr. Albert Sember's répertoire company, including Miss Maud Morton-Powell in the drama "When the Heart is Young."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; B. M., Mr. A. E. Barnes.—The Two Bobs, Tubby Edlin, Odette Myrtil, Dorothy Lena, Henry de Bray and Mary Mitchell in the cabaret entitled "Ciro's Frolics."
Boots, The Chemists, 62, Fawcett-street.

TORQUAY

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Sec., Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Ernest Dare has his repertoire company here in the well-known successes "Still Waters Run Deep" and "Caste."
Boots, The Chemists, 46-48, Fleet-street.

WEST HARTLEPOOL

EMPIRE.—P., West Hartlepool Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. Bert Proud.—"The Better 'Ole" is being presented here, with Ambrose Manning as Old Bill.

PALACE.—P., Bros. Black; M., Mr. Rex Sugden.—Riley's Little Wonders, in "Playing at Pantomime," provide the variety portion of the programme here.
Boots, The Chemists, 51, Lynn-street.

WATFORD

PALACE.—M., Mr. Tom Taylor; M. D., Mr. Herbert A. Harrison.—Messrs. E. Vivian Edmunds and Edward Furneaux's company presented on Monday the successful Lancashire play, "Her Only Son."
Boots, The Chemists, 115, High-street.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Kimberley's, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; M., Mr. E. T. Kisbey; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—Miss Leila Zillwood's company, in "The Broken Rosary," is the attraction here.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Guy E. Dunning; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Taylor.—W. Webber Mead presents "The Models of Marcus." Also appearing are the Esa Japanese Trio and Harry Halsey, comedian.
Boots, The Chemists, 7-8, Queen-street; 82, Chapel Ash.

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OINTMENT

ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Tuesday morning in each week]

PLAYS.

Abbott, Ernest.—Dec. 17, Public Hall, Runcorn; 24, T.R., Macclesfield.
A'Dell (Evelyn).—Dec. 17, Empire, Rotherham.
Aladdin (Lola Charme's Co.).—Dec. 17, T.R., Coatbridge; 24, Pavilion, Ayr.
All British Rep. Co.—Dec. 17, Olympia, Tredegar.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy. — Dec. 24, Peterborough (3), King's Lynn (3).
Allington Charsley Opera Co.—Dec. 17, Metropole, Bootle.
Ann, Beauchamp and Beecham (Haldane Crichton).—Dec. 17, Empire, Swindon; 24, T.R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Arcadians, The (Courtneidge, No. 1).—Dec. 24, Grand, Northampton.
Austin (Mary) Co.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Wrexham.
Babes in the Wood, The (Wylie and Tate) Co.—Dec. 17, Palace, Manchester.
Back Home in Tennessee.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Wednesbury; 24, T.R., Wolverhampton.
Barton Mystery, The.—Dec. 17, Princes, Portsmouth.
Because Love Made You Mine.—Dec. 17, T.R., Birkenhead.
Belle of New York.—Dec. 17, Pavilion, Mile End, E.
Better 'Ole, The.—Dec. 17, Grand, Derby; 24, O.H., Blackpool.
Betty (George Edwardes). — Dec. 24, Gaiety, Hastings.
Betty (Macdonald & Young).—Dec. 24, T.R., Norwich.
Black Sheep of the Family, The.—Dec. 17, Queen's, Farnworth; 24, T.R., Barnsley.
Boy Blue (Barney Armstrong's Co.).—Dec. 27, Empire, Dublin.
Broken Rosary, The.—Dec. 17, Imperial, Bordesley.
Brer Rabbit and Mr. Fox (Harold V. Neilson).—Dec. 17, West Pier, Brighton.
Broken Trail, The.—Dec. 17, Palace, Derby.
Carl Rosa Opera Co., The.—Dec. 26, T.R., Halifax.
Carminetta (N. Graham and E. Waller).—Dec. 22, H.M.T., Dundee (9).
Casey (Will) Co.—Dec. 17, Palace, Newcastle; 24, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Caste.—Dec. 17, O. H., Torquay (3); Dec. 20, O. H., Torquay (3).
Christian, The.—Dec. 17, T.R., Worthing.
Cinderella (Jazon and Montgomery).—Dec. 26, T.R., Birkenhead.
Cottage Girl, The.—Dec. 17, Palace, Redditch; 24, Gaiety, Birmingham.
Coward Who Made Good, The.—Dec. 17, Empire, Aberavon.
Daddy's Girl.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Mexborough; 24, T.R., South Shields.
Damaged Goods (East Co.).—Dec. 24, Queen's, Farnworth.
Damaged Goods (North Co.). — Dec. 17, T.R., Newcastle.
Damaged Goods (South Co.). — Dec. 17, O.H., Middlesbrough; 24, Empire, Sunderland.
Damaged Goods (West Co.).—Dec. 17, Victoria, Bristol; 24, Pavilion, Mile End.
Daughter of Devon, A.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Bolton.
Dick Whittington (Francis Laidler).—Dec. 10, T.R., Leeds (and on).
Dobell's (W. L.) Repertory Company.—Dec. 17, Town Hall, Athy.
Double Event, The. — Dec. 17, Empire, Penge.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Dec. 17, King's, Glasgow; 26, P.O.W., Birmingham.
East Lynne.—Dec. 17, T.R., Norwich.
End of the Game, The.—Dec. 17, Alexandra, Pontefract.
Fatal Wedding, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Scarborough.
Fishermaid of Old St. Malo, The.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Wrexham.
Frank Liston.—Dec. 24, T.R., Scarborough.
Gayest of the Gay, The.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Wrexham; 24, Hippodrome, Bolton.
Ghosts (Kingsway Theatre Co.).—Dec. 17, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Girl from Ciro's, The.—Dec. 24, Palace Pier, Brighton.
Girl from Upstairs, The.—Dec. 17, T.R., Bournemouth.
Girl Mother, The.—Dec. 17, T.R., Barnsley; 24, Gaiety, Houghton-le-Spring.
Glad Eye, The.—Dec. 17, T.R., Aldershot.
Glenville (Matthew H.).—Dec 17, Hippodrome, Mexborough; 24, T.R., South Shields.
Henry L. Osmond.—Dec. 24, T.R., Bury.
Her Favourite Son.—Dec. 17, Lyceum, Newport; 24, Empire, Tonypandy.
Herbert Shelley.—Dec. 17, Grand, Luton; 24, Victoria, Kettering.
Her Forbidden Sacrifice.—Dec. 17, Empire, Rotherham.
Her Only Son.—Dec. 17, T.R., Crook.
His Last Leave.—Dec. 17, Globe, Consett; 24, Palace, Durham.
Humanity.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Putney.
Humpty-Dumpty (Howard and Wyndham). —Dec. 17, T.R., Edinburgh.
Humpty-Dumpty (Wm. de Lacy).—Dec. 22, Metropole, Bootle.
In the Trenches.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Coventry; 24, Hippodrome, Aston.
Inside the Lines.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Poplar.
Irish Players, The.—Dec. 17, Empire, Dublin; 24, T.R., Limerick.
Jackson-Mepham Repertoire Co.—Dec. 17, Grand, Southampton.
John Raymond's Daughter.—Dec. 17, Junction T., Manchester.
King's Vale Mystery, The.—Dec. 17, Grand, Luton; 24, Victoria, Kettering.
Kingston's (W. B.) Rep. Co.—Dec. 17, Theatre, Loanhead; 24, Loanhead.
Knowles (J. Forbes) Rep. Co.—Dec. 17, Hippo., Wrexham; 24, Hippodrome, Bolton.
La Poupée.—Dec. 17, Woolwich.
Lass of Dingley Moor.—Dec. 17, Grand, Luton; 24, Victoria, Kettering.
Leonard Rep. Co.—Dec. 17, T.R., Lincoln; 24, Spa O.H., Bridlington.
Let No Man Put Asunder.—Dec. 17, T.R., Stratford, E.
Link That Binds, The.—Dec. 17, T.R., Crook.
Little Bo-Peep (Harry McKelvie's Co.).—Dec. 26, T.R., Bolton.
Little Damozel, The.—Dec. 17, Pav., Weymouth.
Little Goody Two Shoes.—Dec. 17, T.R., Bury; 24, T.R., Bury (Lancs.).
Little Grey Home in the West.—Dec. 24, Empire, Garston.
Little Minister, The.—Dec. 17, Bridlington.
Little Miss Goody.—Dec. 17, T.R., Bury (Lancs.).
Love Marriage, A.—Dec. 17, T.R., Darlington; 24, T.R., West Stanley.
Mackey, Chalmers Rep. Co.—Dec. 17, O.H., St. Helens.
Maid of the Midnight Sun.—Dec. 26, H.M.T. Carlisle.
Maid of the Mountains.—Dec. 24, T.R., Brighton.
Marriage Market, The.—Dec. 24, O.H., Dudley.
Maude (Winifred).—Dec. 17, T.R., Abervon.
Mill Girl's Wedding, A.—Dec. 17, Grand, Luton; 24, Victoria, Kettering.
Millward (John S.).—Dec. 17, T.R., South Shields.
Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace.—Dec. 17, T.R., Lincoln.
Mollusc, The.—Dec. 24, Rannacleave T., Ilfracombe.
Monty's Flapper.—Dec. 17, Palace, Maidstone; 24, T.R., Windsor.
Moonshine.—Dec. 17, Grand, Swansea.
Mother But Not a Wife, A.—Dec. 17, Palace, Gloucester.
Mother Goose (A. B. Smith). — Dec. 17, R.C.T., Warrington.
Mother Hubbard (Cromo and Hamilton).—Dec. 17, The Surrey; 24, T.R., Chatham.
Mother's Sacrifice, A.—Dec. 17, Palace, Newcastle; 24, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Moths.—Dec. 21, Palace, Gloucester.
My Lady Frayle.—Dec. 24, T.R., Aldershot.
Mr. Mayfair.—Dec. 17, Grand, Mansfield; 24, T.R., Winchester.
My Bonny Jean.—Dec. 17, O.H., Perth; 24, T.R., Inverness.
My Home in Kentucky.—Dec. 17, T.R., North Shields; 24, T.R., Middlesbrough.
O'Brien and Ireland's Rep. Co.—Dec. 17, O.H., Cork; 26, Society Hall, Queenstown.
Octoroon, The, and Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Dec. 17, Grand, Doncaster; 19, Scala, Seacombe.
Oh, I Say!—Dec. 24, Grand, West Hartlepool.
Only a Mill Girl.—Dec. 17, Grand, Falkirk; 24, R.C.T., Bacup.
Our Kid.—Dec. 17, Palace, Clitheroe; 24, O.H., Wakefield.
Pair of Silk Stockings.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Golder's Green.
Peg o' My Heart (Macdonald and Young). —Dec. 24, King's Lynn (3); Peterborough (3).
Phillips' (H. B.) Opera Co.—Dec. 26, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
Pitman's Daughters, A.—Dec. 17, T.R., Darlington; 24, T.R., West Stanley.
Pomponette.—Dec. 17, T.R., York.
Pride of the Regiment.—Dec. 17, Palace, Bordesley; 24, Palace, Bordesley.
Raynor Rep. Co.—Dec. 17, County, Shrewsbury; 24, County, Shrewsbury.
Red Riding Hood (Geo. T. Minshull's Co.). —Dec. 24, R.C.T., Liverpool.
Ridding (John) Opera Co.—Dec. 17, Emp., Motherwell; 24, King's, Kirkcaldy.
Robin Hood (Arthur Clarence).—Dec. 17, T.R., Stanley.
Robinson Crusoe (Ernest Dottridge's Co.). —Dec. 24, T.R., Leamington.
Rolling Stone, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Seaham Harbour.
Romance.—Dec. 17, O.H., Blackpool; 24, Empire, Wakefield.
Rotters, The (Arthur Gibbons).—Dec. 24, Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.
Sally in Society.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Hulme.
Second to None.—Dec. 17, Empire, Edmonton.
Seven Days' Leave (Red Co.).—Dec. 26, Grand, Swansea.
Seven Days' Leave (White Co.).—Dec. 26, New T., Cambridge.
Shaughraun, The.—Dec. 17, O.H., Cork (3).
Sinbad the Sailor (Watson).—Dec. 24, Regent, Salford.
Somewhere a Voice is Calling.—Dec. 17, T.R., Smethwick; 24, Empire, Mountain Ash.
Spirit of the Empire, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Coatbridge.
Still Waters Run Deep.—Dec. 17, O.H., Torquay (3).
Theodore and Co. (Grossmith and Laurillard).—Dec. 24, Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Three Daughters of M. Dupont, The.—Dec. 17, Hastings (3), Croydon (3).
Three Weeks.—Dec. 17, P.G.T., Folkestone.
Tommy Trotter (McKelvie).—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Hamilton.
Toto.—Dec. 22, P.O.W., Grimsby.
Trilby.—Dec. 20, O.H., Cork (3)
Under Suspicion.—Dec. 17, Tottenham.
Under Two Flags (Lodge-Percy).—Dec. 17, Metropole, Glasgow; 24, Metropole, Glasgow.
Voice in the Dark, The.—Dec. 17, T.R., Worcester.
Ward (T. Edward).—Dec. 17, Grand, Luton; 24, Grand, Luton.
What Every Girl Can Do.—Dec. 17, Hippo., Wigan.
Why She Got Married (Lodge-Percy).—Dec. 17, Metropole, Glasgow.
Wife for a Day, A.—Dec. 17, County, Bedford; 24, T.R., Stratford, E.
Woman's Victory, A.—Dec. 17, Grand, Luton.
Woman of Louvain, The.—Dec. 17, Olympia, Shoreditch.
Yellow Fang, The.—Dec. 17, Workington.
Young Minister, The (No. 1 Co.).—Dec. 24, Grand, Stockton.

REVUES.

Adams and Eves.—Dec. 17, Collins's, London.
All Bluff.—Dec. 17, R.C.T., Warrington; 24, T.R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
All Change Here.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.
Blighty.—Dec. 17, G.T., Peterborough; 24, County, St. Albans.
Bubble and Squeak.—Dec. 17, West Hartlepool.
Bubbly.—Dec. 17, O.H., Harrogate; 24, T.R., York.
Bunch of Beauty, A.—Dec. 25, T.R., Worcester.
Buttercups. — Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Boscombe.
Carnival Girl, The.—Dec. 24, Lyric, Liverpool.
Ciro's Frolics.—Dec. 17, Empire, Sunderland.
Coloured Society.—Dec. 17, The Surrey, London.
Come in Miss.—Dec. 17, Hippo., Rochdale.
Crackers.—Dec. 17, Hippo., Margate; 24, T.R., Woolwich.
Crystal Gazer, The. — Dec. 17, Victoria, Brighton.
Don't Tempt Me.—Dec. 17, Bordesley.
Flying Colours.—Dec. 17, Regent, Salford; 24, King's, Gateshead.
Frills and Drills.—Dec. 17, Empire, Croydon; 24, Palace, East Ham.
Frills and Fancies.—Dec. 17, Palace, Blackburn; 24, Tivoli, Hull.
Good-Bye-ee. — Dec. 17, Southampton; 24, Empire, Cardiff.
Hanky-Panky.—Dec. 17, Empire, Cardiff; 24, P.G.T., Folkestone.
Happy Days.—Dec. 17, Hippo., Stoke; 24, Palace, Bradford.
Heave O! (No. 1 Co.).—Dec. 24, New T., Crewe.
Heave O! (No. 2 Co.). — Dec. 17, T.R., Guildford; 24, Borough T., Stanord.
Hello, Baby!—Dec. 24, Hereford.
House That Jerry Built.—Dec. 17, Palace, Camberwell.
How Ripping!—Dec. 17, Pavilion, Worthwick.
It's a Bargain. — Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Aston.
Jake-a-Loo.—Dec. 17, Pier, Bognor.
Joyland.—Dec. 17, Empire, Newport.
Kodak Girl.—Dec. 17, Birmingham; 24, Hippodrome, Devonport.
Life and Laughter.—Dec. 17, Empire, Smethwick.
Mirth and Melody.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Nottingham.
Mumming Birds. — Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Belfast.
My Son Sammy.—Dec. 17, Hippo., Sheffield; 24, King's, Longsight.
Next, Please.—Dec. 17, Alexandra, Widnes; 24, Hippodrome, Salford.
Night of Brightness. — Dec. 17, Hippo., Sheerness; 24, T.R., Yarmouth.
Ocean Waves.—Dec. 17, Empire, Glasgow.
Peaches. (No. 1 Co.).—Dec. 17, Tivoli, Aberdeen.
Pearl of the Orient.—Dec. 17, Gaiety, Birmingham.
Picture Girl, The (Bellamy No. 1 Co.).—Dec. 17, T.R., Bury; 24, T.R., Leigh.
Pleasure Bound.—Dec. 17, Empire, Shepherd's Bush; 24, Hippodrome, Balham.
S'Hush!—Dec. 17, T.R., Jarrow; 24, Empire, Rotherham.
Smile!—Dec. 17, Hippo., Birkenhead; 24, Empire, Leeds.
Some Girls.—Dec. 17, King's, Longsight; 24, Hippodrome, Chesterfield.
Some Treasure.—Dec. 17, Hippo., Chesterfield; 24, Queen's, Poplar.
Stop Press.—Dec. 17, New T., Crewe.
Sugar Baby, The.—Dec. 17, Empire, Kilburn.
Sunshine Suc.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.
Three Bites.—Dec. 17, Empire, New Cross.
Tiddley-Winks.—Dec. 17, Hippo., Warrington; 24, Hippodrome, Nuneaton.
Topsy-Turvy. — Dec. 17, Hippo., Nottingham; 24, Hippodrome, Newcastle.
Trifles.—Dec. 17, Palace, Chatham.
Vanity Fair.—Dec. 24, Empire, Bristol.
What a Catch (No. 1 Co.).—Dec. 17, Lyceum, Sheffield.
Where's the Chicken?—Dec. 17, Glasgow; 24, Tivoli, Aberdeen.
You Never Know!—Dec. 17, King's, Kilmarnock; 24, Palace, Doncaster.
Zig-Zag.—Dec. 17, The Middlesex, London.

CONCERT PARTIES.

A La Mode.—Dec. 17, New T., Oxford.
Anglo-Indian.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Kettering.
Catlin's Royal Pierrots.—Dec. 17, Temperance Hall, Birmingham; 24, Albert Hall, Leeds.
Entrees, The.—Dec. 24, Pavilion, Rusholme.
Gay Gondoliers, The.—Dec. 17, Palace, Northampton.
Hustlers, The.—Dec. 17, Queen's, Cardiff; 24, Queen's, Cardiff.
Ideals, The.—Dec. 17, King's, Oswestry; 24, Palace, Pembroke Dock.
Maids and Middies.—Dec. 24, Town Hall, Holt.
Merry Players, The.—Dec. 17, West End Cinema, Edinburgh; 24, Majestic, Inverkeithing.
Night Birds, The.—Dec. 17, Palace, Norton Malton; 24, Palace, Norton Malton.
Nobodies, The.—Dec. 17, Hippodrome, Birmingham.
Passing Events, The.—Dec. 17, La Scala, Invergordon; 24, Music Hall, Inverness.
Pierrot, Pierrette, and Piano.—Dec. 17, Garrison, Bulford; 24, Market Hall, Norwich.
Pronouns, The.—Dec. 17, O.H., Buxton; 24, Crown, Eccles.
Qualities, The.—Dec. 17, Mechanics' Hall, Dumfries.
Queers, The.—Dec. 24, Picture House, Stratford-on-Avon.
Radiums, The.—Dec. 17, Town Hall, Sheringham; 24, Olympian Gardens, Cromer.
Royal Scarlet Entertainers.—Dec. 24, The Metropolitan.
Superbs, The.—Dec. 17, Lyric, Hull; 24, Lyric, Hull.
Summits, The.—Dec. 17, Kursaal, Whitley Bay; 24, Kursaal, Whitley Bay.
Wits, The.—Dec. 17, W.G.T., Leamington; 24, Hippodrome, Cannock.

"INDUSTRY."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Rutherford Mayne, Produced at the Grand Opera House, Belfast, on Dec. 6.

Lord Loftus ..... Jackson Grahame
Martin McDonnell ..Gerald McNamara
Magowan ..... Walter Kennedy
George Stephens ..... Norman Gray
Percy Johnston ..... J. C. Abbey
Sergeant Maloney .... Chas. K. Ayre
McNamee ..... Joseph Roney
Chas. V. MacLoughlan
Rutherford Mayne
Lady Loftus ..... Rose McQuillan
Helen Loftus ..... Muriel Woods
Mrs. Jerrold ..... Una O'Hagan
Daisy Jerrold ..... Mabel Harris

A sleepy country village in Ireland is the scene of this play. Into this quiet spot blunders an American who, under the influence of liquor, has mistaken his station, his intention being to start an industry further down the line. Having made the mistake, he announces that this town will do, and proceeds to get a hustle on. The course of the play shows that when the industry is well started, and there is employment and money for all, the people are dissatisfied with the grinding, noise, and bustle consequent on the establishment of a big industry, and prefer their old peaceful, if penurious, existence.

The culmination is reached when the hard-up Lord Loftus sells to the American a part of his demesne, most prized by Lady Loftus, as a site for an extension of the works. This so angers her Ladyship that she secretly plots with the leaders of the discontented workers, who have a scheme "afoot" for demolishing the entire works. When all plans have been laid Lady Loftus discovers from her husband that the American has bought for a fancy figure not the prized portion of the property, but a useless scrag-field. She immediately tries to circumvent the malcontents, but the works are fired while the American is within their precincts. He, however, escapes.

The author (Mr. Rutherford Mayne) appeared in the leading rôle of Charles V. MacLoughlan, a capitalist, and his success was never in doubt. Mr. Jackson Grahame furnished a clever impersonation of Lord Loftus; and Mr. Joseph Roney was exceedingly droll as McNamee Mr. Norman Gray (George Stephens) was the bank clerk to the life, and Miss Muriel Woods was delightful as Helen Loftus. Mr. Walter Kennedy furnished a realistic impersonation of Magowan, the hote' proprietor; and other rôles were capably sustained.

"BUTTERCUPS."

Revue, Produced at Croydon Empire on Monday, Dec. 10.

Mr. Harry Day's latest revue was received with enthusiasm by a crowded first house at the Empire, Croydon. It is a very bright and merry mixture. The scene is laid in the Buttercup Creamery, and the plot tells of the bogus sale of the creamery for £1,000, how the money is stolen, and how the proprietor's love letters are recovered. Baggs is a part in which Mr. Horace Jones revels. We have never seen this clever comedian to better advantage than in this show, his dry humour being irresistible. Mr. John Rorke, as the proprietor, assists Mr. Jones in the comedy line, and proves in several numbers, notably "I've Found That Girl," his ability as a light comedian. Mr. Harvey Manning looks sinister enough as the villain, and has for a companion charming Miss Alice Wyatt, who could not possibly look villainous. Vivacious Miss Dolly Venton sings well "The Simple Life" and "Inspection Day," and dances excellently. Miss Queenie Essex uses her beautiful voice to advantage in "Devonshire Home" and other numbers, and acts cleverly throughout, and Mr. William Bell and Miss Molly St. Clair in other parts do all that is required of them well. The scenery and dresses are artistic and tasteful, and a good-looking chorus and octette of pretty dancers complete.

Ted Saunders, the popular comedian, those smart cross-talk comedians and clever dancers, Woodhouse and Wells, and The Great Wieland, an expert at burlesque juggling, are also here.

"MAGGIE McFADDEN'S BREACH OF PROMISE CASE."

An Ulster Comedy, in Two Acts, by D. MacLaughlin, Produced at the Empire, Belfast, on Dec. 10.

Thomas McFadden
Mr. W. McClelland Martin
Mrs. McFadden .. Miss Patricia Clare
Maggie McFadden
Miss Gertrude Madden
Jacob McIlveen .... Mr. Paul Connolly
Archie McIlveen .. Mr. Robert Fulton
Barney Bradley..Mr. Jack McGibbon
Cornelius O'Hare....Mr. J. H. Morgan
Dennis McNicholl....Mr. Matt. Ward
Judge Tomkins..Mr. R. H. McCandless
Lionel Murphy....Mr. Desmond Crean
Arthur Chamberlain
Mr. J. V. McGettrick

The first act takes place in Thomas McFadden's house. He and Archie McIlveen, farmers by occupation, are sworn enemies, the cause of hatred being a dispute about the ownership of a turf bog. Jacob McIlveen and Maggie McFadden, their children, have been keeping company, but Jacob, who is dependent on his father, cannot marry without his consent. Thomas McFadden looks with ill-favour on the match, but hearing of McIlveen's serious objection, he considers it a slur on himself and daughter, and, notwithstanding Maggie's protest, institutes proceedings for breach of promise. The second act takes place in an Assize Court before a judge, and a sensation is caused when the plaintiff and defendant appear as man and wife. However, all ends happily, the judge ordering Archie McIlveen to pay £500 as a wedding present to his daughter-in-law Maggie.

Mr. R. H. McCandless furnished a capital impersonation of Judge Tomkins. Miss Gertrude Madden acts with spirit and conviction as Maggie McFadden; and Mr. McClelland Martin sustains the rôle of McFadden with undoubted skill. Mr. Paul Connolly is in every sense successful as Jacob McIlveen; and Mr. Robert Fulton admirably plays the part of Archie. Mr. J. H. Morgan assists materially as Cornelius O'Hare; and Miss Patricia Claire ably plays the rôle of Mrs. McFadden. Mr. Desmond Crean must be congratulated on his realistic impersonation of the barrister, Lionel Murphy. Mr. Matt. Ward deserves praise for his embodiment of Denis McNicholl.

Miss Minnie Rayner, who has been playing Mrs. Clugston in "The Rotters" with great success since last Boxing Day, has been re-engaged by Mr. Arthur Gibbons for tour.

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Cameron, Miss Elsa
Caro, Mr. Tom
Carr, Miss Nellie
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FIRST OF THE PANTOMIMES.
III.

"TOMMY TODDLES," AT GLASGOW.

On Saturday evening Mr. Rich. Waldon produced his 38th Royal Princess's pantomime.

Mr. Waldon has again written the book, and though the name of the pantomime suggests a new subject, unknown to childhood's fairy lore, no serious departure from traditional lines has been attempted.

The resident scenic artist, Mr. J. C. Bontor, is responsible for the eleven scenes in this year's production, and the opening one, The Village Steps, is an excellent example of Mr. Bontor's work. But it is in the concluding scene, The White Palace, that he has allowed himself the fullest artistic scope, and the result is one of the finest palace scenes that Mr. Waldon has ever presented to his patrons.

The principal boy, Miss Kitty Curtis, is an actress of very special ability, a charming singer, and neat dancer, and as Rupert she caught the fancy of the audience right away. All her songs were heartily encored, but her most ambitious effort, however, is achieved in the finale to the first half of the pantomime, where she takes the leading part in the "Glory and Love" scena, from Gounod's "Faust."

Of a different style is Miss Sophie Forrest as principal girl, but with a charm all her own and a convincing energy, in the rendering of her songs, dances, and dialogue that makes every word strike home. The second boy and girl parts are played by a popular couple, Misses Raie Walters and Rosie Walters, and their success here was soon assured.

The comedians are a strong combination. Mr. Jo Monkhouse as The Stranger is the limit in weird eccentricity. He infuses the necessary touch of mystery into the part, and, in addition to ably sharing in all the musical items, he catches the crowd with his "Conchie" song. Mr. Sam Thomson has been seen over and over again in Princess pantomimes, but, being native here and to the manner born, his humour is always in demand. His best scene for uproarious fun was in the Fire Station. And a more comic set of firemen than Messrs. Jo Monkhouse, Robb Gilmore, Rell, and Butt it would be hard to find. The Baron of the cast is Mr. G. V. Campbell, and though we know the humour of this comedian in suitable parts, he plays the usurper on strongly dramatic lines. Mr. Willie Scott makes a lively and attractive dame, and is provided with a veritable wardrobe of quaintly designed dresses. That clever little comedian, Mr. Robb Gilmore, is exceedingly smart as Billy Dough. The array of comedians is further strengthened by Messrs. Roy Rell and Chris Butt, who are indefatigable in all the fun, and are responsible for several clever gay scenes.

Miss Wilson as the Fairy Heartsease looks charming, speaks her lines with good effect, and completes the list of principal parts. The Six Model Maids introduce some clever dances and lively songs.

The music of the pantomime is on more ambitious lines than usual, and Mr. Robert M'Leod, the musical director here, has, in addition to all the new songs of the season, made effective use of a number of stirring choruses from operatic sources. The stage manager for the production is Mr. Gilbert Lees, and the entire superintendence is in the hands of Mr. Rich. Waldon, who was able to claim another success when he responded to the calls for a speech at the close.

"CINDERELLA," AT GLASGOW.

On Saturday, Mr. Fred W. Wyndham successfully launched his 31st pantomime at the Theatre Royal, and a crowded house proclaimed its delight in no uncertain fashion at the fare provided.

The charming scenery for the production is by Messrs. Swift, Spark, Walmsley, Hall, and Dunn.

Of the principals engaged, no more charming Cinderella could be wished for than Miss Daisy Dormer. She invests the part with simple pathos in the earlier scenes, enters with spirit into the humour of the Bird's Nest scene, and looks regal in her ballroom dress at the close of the story. She has a big selection of new and catchy songs, including a duet, "Just a Little Bit," with Jimmie Pullin, who plays the page Tippit. Miss Marie Brayman is a handsome Prince, speaks her lines and sings her songs with distinction. Miss Mona Magnet undertakes the part of Dandini, and in the scenes where the valet is allowed to masquerade as the Prince she gives an amusing exaggeration of what princely behaviour is supposed to be.

Mr. Alfred Wellesley is very good as Baron Shortocash, and has a funny song, "Nuts and Fruit." With Mr. Jimmie Pullin as the Page, these two have amusing interludes in every scene, and work up a great number of clever gag business. Messrs. Willie Black and Fred Lamp appear as brokers' men, the Scotch accent of the first contrasting amusingly with the latter's Midland speech. A small part, very cleverly played, is that of a next-door neighbour, an aggressive and truculent coster, and Mr. Tom Dillon deserves praise for it. Mr. George Green makes a clever study of the dog Towser, and has some amusing business. Miss Hilda Glynn as Anthony and Miss Nora Stockelle as Peggy are an attractive couple. The Ugly Sisters are in excellent hands, Miss Edith Blande's dramatic style as the one and Miss Ray Eddis with a touch of low comedy as the other making good use of their opportunities.

The fairy element, without which no pantomime would be complete, is entrusted to Miss Edith Williams as the Fairy Mistletoe, and to two smart little girls, Violet Hurlings and Irene Diffey, who as Cock Robin and Jenny Wren act their parts like experienced old stagers. Mme. Walker's Juveniles appear in several scenes with good effect. The Six Merry Macs sing and dance well; their snow ballet costumes being specially effective.

A dancing turn is given in the Palace scene by Lydia and Francis.

Mr. Alfred Carpenter occupies his familiar post as musical director here. Mr. F. D. Daviss is the stage manager for the run of the pantomime, and the entire production has been staged under the personal supervision of Mr. Fred W. Wyndham, who on Saturday had the satisfaction of seeing the success of his efforts endorsed by the audience.

"WHITTINGTON" AT GLASGOW.

Defying superstition, the Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Dick Whittington," was produced on Friday night at the Glasgow Alhambra before a crowded house, who gave a most enthusiastic welcome to the new production.

The cast is headed by two artistes who are strong favourites in Glasgow—Miss Ella Retford and Mr. Harry Weldon. In the part of Dick Miss Retford made a huge success, and works like a Trojan all through the evening. To a charming personality Miss Retford adds a thorough knowledge of the traffic of the stage. She has secured an excellent selection of all the new songs, and gives them with telling effect. Miss Susie Belmore's Alice is a delightful impersonation, and she gets a special scene for her song, "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning." It is artistically designed with cloud effects.

Mr. Harry Weldon's Idle Jack has been seen in Glasgow before, but loses nothing on that account. It is a rich and ripe embodiment of humour. With Miss Ella Retford he has a funny improvisation duet.

Another favourite is Mr. Bruce Green, whose studies of the elusive feminine have enriched several pantomimes. His Martha Jane, the cook, is a clever performance, and is full of fun in every scene; and he has a good dame song in "What's the Matter with Me?" Mr. Fred Whittaker repeats his clever impersonation of a cat. Mr. Joe Tennyson as Alderman Fitzwarren plays well the typical heavy father of pantomime. Miss Zelinda Davis as the Princess of Morocco has one beautiful song to her credit in "My Arabian Maid," which with special scene and revue chorus made a decided success.

Two clever knockabouts, Messrs. Den and Mark, as the Captain and Mate, put in a lot of hard work, and introduce their own acrobatic speciality. Mr. William Kaine gives the necessary touch of Eastern dignity to the part of the Emperor, and Mr. William Wichelow plays the Bellringer effectively. The supernatural element is in the hands of Mr. Martyn Roland as the Demon Rat, and a dainty little girl, Vera Bryer, as the Fairy Sunbeam.

Many of the scenes are of a high order of excellence, the view of London from Highgate Hill, Old Cheapside, the Emperor's Palace, and London on a Lord Mayor's Day being worthy of honourable mention. In this latter scene the old-fashioned clown, pantaloon, harlequin, columbine, and policeman all duly appear, with Ted Reed as the clown and the Reed Troupe supporting him.

The book is by Lauri Wylie and Alfred Parker, the lyrics by Clifford Harris, and the mise-en-scène by Julian Wylie. It has been staged by Gus Sohlke, the dramatic portions produced by F. Maxwell Stuart, and Walter Wichelow and Jack Phillips are stage manager and assistant respectively. The music, composed, selected, and arranged by Jas. W. Tate, is attractive. Mr. Howard Croft conducts the performance.

The scenery is from the studios of Messrs. John Bull, with one omission, the Highgate Hill scene specially mentioned above, which is by Mr. Philip Howden.

"HUMPTY DUMPTY" AT EDINBURGH.

Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's annual pantomime, by Frank Dix, produced at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, had an enthusiastic send off by a crowded audience last Saturday evening. Mr. Dix's story is fresh and charming, and admirably worked out. The arts of the musician, the scene painter, the actor, the costumier, and the electrician have been combined to make the pantomime a conspicuous success. Mr. Stafford Hall is responsible for several pretty canvases, especially beautiful in their arrangement, and rich and dainty colouring being "Rainbowland" and "The City of Benares," in the latter of which the feelings of the audience are raised to a high pitch of fervour by a march of the Allies, to the accompaniment of a promising song written by Mr. Robert McLeod. Mr. Helmsley has painted one or two clever scenes, and a lovely set, "The Land of Cherry Blossom," is from the brush of Mr. Conrad Tritschler.

Of the performance it may be said that the band of players engaged by the management would brighten any piece. Miss Madge White, Humpty Dumpty, acted with dexterity and dash, and sang her songs with intelligence and point. Miss Julia de Lacy played with grace and sweetness as Curly Locks, and the number of bouquets which were handed to her at the close spoke of the appreciation of the audience. Miss Hebe Bliss as Twinklestar was an outstanding figure. A gifted actress, she revealed, alike in the short opening scene as Mrs. Tremaine and as the presiding fairy of Mars, dramatic power and versatility. She is an accomplished singer with a well-trained voice of considerable range. Mr. George Jackley, a capital comedian, revelled in the part of the King of Humptyland, and his ability as a silleur, and his drollery as an actor, added greatly to the fun of the performance. Mr. Tom D. Newell, with a quieter but not less effective method, gave a humorous and genial impersonation of the Dame, the Queen of Humptyland. He possesses the happy gift of compelling laughter by song, sally, and patter, and his burlesques of Eastern dances brought down the house. Mr. Ray Holgate, a comedian with a neat, pleasant style presented an original and entertaining study of the boy Leslie. Miss Thommy Graham was the Fairy of Humptyland. Miss Peggy Yeoman was a quaint old woman who lived in a shoe; Miss Phyllis Binda danced with elegance and animation; the University Comedy Four sang their glees tastefully, and the Yamataga Troupe presented their acrobatic act with their customary liveliness and success. The Sparkling Mozelles as Jack and Jill exhibited distinct cleverness in their songs and dances, and the auxiliaries, including the Eight Palace Girls and the Hermami Juveniles, added to the general effect. The incidental music is arranged by Mr. J. H. Wilson and Mr. E. J. Rogers; the properties are by Mr. Geo. Carney; the electric light effects by Mr. O. Hamilton; and the mechanical effects by Mr. W. Lees. The pantomime has been produced under the personal direction of Mr. Geo. T. Minshull, assisted by Mr. Marshall Moore; and at the fall of the curtain on Saturday the audience showed their pleasure by tumultuous applause.

"BO-PEEP AND BOY BLUE," AT GLASGOW.

Mr. Harry M'Kelvie produced this pantomime at the Lyceum Theatre, Govan, on Monday last, and with it sees safely on the road four touring pantomimes emanating from the Glasgow Princess's, and all arranged and drilled under the eagle eye of Mr. Rich. Waldon.

A clever and well-balanced company has been secured, and Miss May Merry as Bo-Peep and Miss Florrie Ramsay as Boy Blue amply justified their selection. Their love-making is convincing, they give their dialogue with all the necessary point, and render their songs most effectively. "One Hour of Bliss" is their most notable duet. Boy Blue does well in "Down Texas Way," and Bo-Peep's "Arizona" song is a special favourite, equalled only by the humorous gusto of "Oh, Johnny." A stirring patriotic song is also finely declaimed by Miss May Merry. The Sisters Finette are second boy and girl, and play up well to the others. Their duet, "To-night is the Night for Love," was exceedingly well rendered.

The comedy element is in safe hands. Mr. Edwin Dodds plays a mystery part, The Shadow, and is very funny. His singing of Alfred Lester's "Conchy Objector" song was a hit. Mr. Hugh Webb makes a first-rate Dame, and is to the front when there is fun going. Mr. Wal Croft plays a Scotch part as Rusty Pate, a carter, and his pawky humour is much enjoyed. Two smart comedians, Messrs. Denby and Dent, ably assist in keeping the ball rolling, and have some clever business of their own when they get a scene to themselves. Mr. Wally Briggs as Quenton Quirk, the lawyer, is the necessary villain of the piece, and seems to revel in the atrocities allotted to him with the delight of the frightful Hun. Miss Mona Cutler as the Fairy helps to keep the balance on the side of love and right. A number of smart juveniles appear, and in their "Blighty" song fairly make the welkin ring. A lady conductor, whose name was not on the programme, kept orchestra and chorus well in hand. The new manager of the Lyceum, Miss Macdonald, has now entered on her duties here.

Mr. W. S. Pearce has decided not to stage a pantomime, after all, at the Palace, Bath, but put on a regular variety bill for the Christmas week.

THE PANTOMIME GUIDE.

A FORECAST OF THE PANTOMIMES NOW IN COURSE OF PREPARATION.

LONDON.—LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH. — "Babes in the Wood." Written by Herbert Lloyd. The principal scenes will include The Market Place, The Babes' Bedroom, with mechanical change to Toyland, The Forest, and Grand Palace. The cast in a strong one, including Hazel Glade, Stuart, Grant, Nicholson, Dollie Mayo, Marjorie Richards, Lily Arthur, Margaret Craske, Ladie Sadler, Phillis St. Clair, Greta Fayne, Irene Englehurst, Gladys Wynne, Monty Walker, Will Skidmore, Billy Neil, and 18 Hammersmith Dots. The pantomime will be produced on Boxing Day by E. J. Allnutt.

BRITANNIA, HOXTON. — "Cinderella." Invented and written by Stanley Rogers, with music composed and arranged by Bernard Daly. Fairy Godmother, Amy Grey. Spirit of Pantomime, Eva Banfield. Prince Casmir, Dorothy Sephton. Dandini, Beattie Browning. Hercules, Alec Keith. Cinderella, Dora Eadie. Dame, Fred Poplar. Tiny, Julia Kent. Elvira, Cissie Coope. Araminta, Lulu Tudor. Capers, Alec Daimler. Ivy Ashley and Eddie Servage. Specialities, The Floradora Sextette of Dancers. The pantomime will be produced by Mr. Alec Keith under the supervision of Messrs. Sansom and Appleton, Ltd., on Saturday evening next.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—"The Babes in the Wood," written by Fred. Bowyer. Principal boy, Tina Frank; principal girl, May Ronayne; dame, Fred Ramsdale; the robbers, Messrs. Benet and Asquin; the Two Babes, Little Doreen Debenham and Rena Davise; other characters by Misses Dorothy Maguire, Elsie Baskerville, Nora Bentley, Alison MacLaren, Bessie Middleton, Mr. W. Uridge, &c. Specialities by Bleriots, patriotic pictorial tableau. Stage manager, Joseph R. Tate; musical director, Geo. Kirkby. The pantomime will be produced by Joseph R. Tate, under the personal supervision of J. Bannister Howard, for ten days, and will then visit Dudley, Swansea, &c.

DERBY.—THE HIPPODROME.—"Jack and the Beanstalk" will be produced by Harry Russell. Cast: Jack (the hero), Madge Allan; Jill (the heroine), Marie Clifton; Lord Lavish, Betty Birtles; Lady Brilliant, Ethel Birtles; Fairy Luna, Annie Webser; Giant Gobblem, Brian Lever; Dame Durdan, Harry Levaine; Montagu Moonstruck, Tom C. Leybourne; Bottle and Buskin, Talberto and Richards; King Cole, Fred A. Marston; Curdle (the pet cat), Fred Gibson; Pickles (the village idiot), Harry Russell. Specialities by Madge Allan, Frank Eden's Troupe, Talberto and Richards, Sisters Birtles, Marie Clifton, Harry Levain, and Harry Russell.

LEICESTER. — ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's "Mother Hubbard." Written by J. Hickory Wood, with music composed and arranged by Michael Dwyer. Principals: Goody Two Shoes, Dorothy Wheeker; Mother Hubbard, Cliff Barrett; the Squire, Charles Dillon; Reggie, Nancy Hanton; Dorothy, Sylvia Bassano; Jack, Violet Field; Mary, Betty Brown; Timothy Jacks, William Littlejohn; Reuben, Bert H. Pierson; A Wild Deer, George Spring; Tric and Antic, Grace Henderson and Belle Cameron; Chocolate, Tom E. Finglass; with specialities by Tom E. Finglass, assisted by Miss Gay Persse, the Kitty Denton Octette of Dancers, and Miss Sylvia Bassano. The pantomime will be produced on Christmas Eve by William J. Greene, the musical director being L. Herve.

LIVERPOOL.—COURT THEATRE.—"Red Riding Hood," written by Frank Dix, with music arranged by E. J. Rogers, Jullien H. Wilson, &c. Principal boy, Lottie Collins, jun. Principal girl, Haidee de Rance. Title-rôle, Maudie Francis. Second boy, Olga Lowis. Fairy Queen, Esme Grey. Principal comedians, The Brothers Anarto, Fowler Winton, Belle Mora, and Rex London. Specialities, the Russell Troupe, the Tiller Children. The pantomime will be produced by Geo. T. Minshull, assisted by Geo. Russell, on Christmas Eve, for a run of eight weeks.

READING. — ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—"Cinderella." The artistes engaged include Eva Rosslyn, Cissie Valper, Chas. Preston, Wilton and Desmond, Frank H. Dale, Gus Elen, junr., Cissie Murphy, Rene Doris, and Sybil Marcelle (Cinderella), Kitty Denton's Eight Sunrays, and full chorus. The pantomime will be produced by George Brydon Phillips on Christmas Eve.

SHEFFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—"Mother Goose." Written by R. C. Oldham. Mr. A. Green is musical conductor, and the principals are Messrs. Albert Le Fre, William Stephens, Harrigan and Holt, Rolando Martin, William Henry, and Fred Conquest. Misses Elsie Mayfair, Alma Green, Maude Vera, Madeleine du Val, and Hilda Simpson. The pantomime will be produced by Harry A. Turner on Christmas Eve. General manager, J. E. B. Beaumont.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.—"Aladdin," written by Fred. Bowyer. Aladdin, Bertha Russell; Widow Twankey, Leedam Stanley; Abanazar, Michael Nono; Emperor of China, Bernard Knowles; Wishee-Washee, Archie McCaig; Vizier, T. Dixon; Princess Balroubadour, Ena Dale; Prince Pekoe and Pitti Sing, Sisters Royston; Chinese Policemen, Nathan and Nathan; Slave of the Ring, Petite Camille Monti; Dan Dee, Lily Richotte; principal dancer, Dorothy Laurie; fairy queen, Zoe Corner; specialities by Bleriot and fairy fountains. The pantomime will be produced on Boxing Day by J. Bannister Howard, and will afterwards visit York, Bridlington, Peterborough, King's Lynn, Gainsborough, and Lincoln.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — "Aladdin," written and with music by Wilfrid Dane. Principal boy, Miss Margot Domican. Principal girl, Miss Dolly Delph. Second boy, Miss Beatrice Wynn. Second girl, Miss Nelly Worth. Principal comedians, Carlton Fredericks, Harry Kirk, Dan Denton, Two Daniels, Jack Leonard, and J. W. Taylor. Specialities. Harlequinade at matinées. Principal dancer, Mlle. Cordelia. Scenery by A. Hope Parker. The pantomime will be produced by Mr. Carlton Fredricks, on Boxing Day, for a run of 10 nights (six matinées) and 12 weeks' tour.

Best Wishes for
Christmas
and a Bright and
Prosperous
New Year
to One and All.
Respectfully Yours,
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THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

Edited by ALFRED BARNARD.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1917.

DRAMATISTS AND THE WAR.

THE letter published in our last issue from a Lieutenant serving in France, criticising Sir J. M. BARRIE's inimitable sketch, "The Old Lady Shows Her Medals," has given rise to discussion in several quarters. The letter, it will be remembered, complained that the sketch was too sentimental for wartime fare, and especially so for soldiers home on leave from the front, who desired, said our correspondent, "To see England wearing a mantle of cheerfulness" when they come home, and "expect theatres and music-halls to make the mantle." Our correspondent objected to the war being used for sentimental treatment by dramatists, and asked, "Why do they not make more use of the humorous incidents in connection with the war?"

As a theme for playwrights the war has varied its position curiously since the beginning of the would tragedy. In the latter part of 1914, when patriotism was stirring the deepest feelings of the people, the play based upon the war was unsuccessful, but it would be difficult to decide whether this was because the dramatists were not putting out good work or whether the theme did not appeal to the public as one that satisfied their desires in connection with amusement. There was a surfeit of patriotic song and display in many of the music-halls, yet people continued to hand in their money at the box-office. The war play, however, was for a time "taboo."

A glance at the list of plays running at the West End theatres at the present time, however, shows an entirely different state of affairs. Out of twenty-five theatres running attractive plays there are no fewer than five dealing more or less with the war, all of them undoubted successes. There are "Inside the Lines" at the Apollo, "General Post" at the Haymarket, "The Better 'Ole" at the Oxford, "Billeted" at the Royalty, and "Seven Days' Leave" at the Lyceum. Of these, the first four depend largely for their success upon comedy, or those humorous incidents in connection with the war to which our correspondent refers. In face of these successes it cannot be said that the war as a theme for our dramatists at the present time is not wanted—for the contrary is proved to be the case. And in view of the success of "Seven Days' Leave" it cannot be said that a war play must depend entirely for its success upon humorous incidents in connection with the war. Still we must remember the failure of "The Pacifist" and "Loyalty"—examples, presumably, of how not to write a war play.

Change of scenery, surroundings, or occupations are regarded universally as a tonic, and therefore it would appear that to provide soldiers from the trenches with comedy—a change indeed from that which they are accustomed to—would be the right type of amusement to place before them when home on leave. But every individual knows what amuses him most, and it is an undoubted fact that some men are the happiest when wallowing in spectacular sorrow and sadness. Certainly, many women derive keen satisfaction from shedding copious tears into small and dainty handkerchiefs at the play, and perhaps in the same way many soldiers delight in the exhibition on the stage of a picture of the real sufferings to which they are daily accustomed. Or may it be that the sufferings portrayed by our dramatists in the sentimental war play or sketch are so utterly unlike the real sufferings known to the soldier that he is absorbed and amused by the contrast?

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Quotation for the week: "I will have my Bond."

* * *

Thanks to the way she's answered the call, we refer to her as Investor Tilley now.

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I hear talk of a War Loan play. It should be full of interest.

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Beecham's Complaint: The Press Gang.

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Why do papers boycott opera? Do they think the melodious odious?

* * *

Saw "Charley's Aunt" again on Saturday. And she isn't even out of breath.

* * *

Sir Albert Stanley is being asked to remove the poster restrictions. Hence the cry, "Off, Stanley, off!"

* * *

I wonder, by the way, whether small bills have ever been unpopular with managers before?

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"The Girl in the Bath" is said to be unusually humorous. Look out for bathos.

* * *

I suppose the heroine will have her hair done up in a bath bun.

* * *

But don't expect to see her during the actual process of ablution. When she has her bath she is sure to hold aloof-ah.

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Harold Brighouse has just written "The Golden Ray." What a compliment to Gabrielle!

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Look out for "The Silver Smithson" by Pinero, and "The Diamond Deslys" by Barrie.

* * *

The hero of "The Knife" is a doctor. Sharp practice, ahoy!

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"I want a seat for 'The Sugar Baby,'" said the man outside the box-office. "Can you please give me a form to fill up?"

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We have forms and cards for everything these days. They'll be introducing theatre ticket tickets next.

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"Amusement rations! Wouldn't it be awful!" exclaimed the young sub. "Fancy only being allowed to see Lily Elsie twice a week."

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One critic, I note, refers to the "Pamela" chorus as full of peerless beauties. Never mind! They'll marry into the aristocracy yet.

TOUCHSTONE.

SOME STUDIES IN SHAKESPEARE.

Inspired and Revised by the late J. CHURTON COLLINS, M.A.

No. 3.—SIR JOHN FALSTAFF.

IF Shakespeare had written the two parts of "Henry IV." only, he would have earned an immortal name, owing to the inimitable Sir John Falstaff, who is, as Maurice Morgan says, "at once young and old, enterprising and fat, a dupe and a wit, harmless and wicked, weak in principle and resolute by constitution, cowardly in appearance and brave in reality, a knave without malice, a liar without deceit, and a knight, a gentleman, and a soldier, without either dignity, decency, or honour."

Falstaff's Intellect.

In considering the character, we are at once struck by his superior intellect which enables him to extricate himself from great difficulties, and prevents anyone who has any connection with him from coping with him. Indeed, he is absolutely invincible. For an example of this intellectual superiority, turn to Part II., Act ii., Scene 1, the scene where Sir John is arrested at the suit of Mistress Quickly. This infuriated and ill-treated tavern-keeper rambles out her complaints, which would find a ready listener in the Chief Justice. She concludes:—

"I put thee now to thy book-oath; deny it if thou canst."

Falstaff has measured up his adversary and the Justice; he appreciates the case fully, and realises his position exactly. He replies:—

"My lord, this is a poor mad soul, and she says up and down the town that her son is like you. She hath been in good case, and the truth is, poverty hath distracted her. But for these foolish officers, I beseech you I may have redress against them."

This effrontery, however, does not blind the representative of the law, who responds:—

"I am well acquainted with your manner of wrenching the true cause the false way. . . . Pay her the debt you owe her, and unpay the villainy you have done; the one you may do with sterling money, and the other with current repentance."

In response to this, Falstaff, who is ever resourceful, says:—

". . . I do desire deliverance from these officers, being upon hasty employment in the King's affairs."

Thus he gets off, and the result of the disturbance is that Mistress Quickly invites him to supper. In Act iii., Scene 3, Part I., this superiority is well seen. Prince Hal listens to his tale of the picking of his pocket, and after he has committed himself to the statement that he was robbed of

"three or four bonds of forty pounds a-piece, and a seal ring of my grandfather's,"

the Prince endeavours to catch him by admitting that he picked Sir John's pocket, and stating that the contents comprised nothing but

"tavern reckonings, memorandums of bawdy-houses, and one poor penny-worth of sugar-candy."

Sir John calmly answers,

". . . You confess, then, you picked my pocket?"

as though the falsehoods he had uttered were invented for the purpose of drawing the Prince's confession. So it is in every case—Shallow he twists round his finger. There is only one instant in the play where Falstaff makes a mistake, and that is in his estimation of the Prince's character. All the other characters he masters, but he never understands that the Prince is *with* them only, and not *of* them. All through he lives, and borrows money, on the strength of the position he expected to take up when Hal became King. But when King Henry V. does take the throne, Falstaff finds to his cost that Hal drops his acquaintance.

"I know thee not, old man; fall to thy prayers."

But even this does not break Falstaff's heart. Turning to Shallow, he observes,

"Master Shallow, I owe you a thousand pounds."

The reason for this mistake is that Sir John Falstaff has no moral insight, and he has read Henry's character by his own—that is to say, he knows that *he* lives a dissipated life, and is ever likely to, and therefore he thinks the same of Hal.

A misinterpretation of Hal's character, however, cannot be said to denote a lack of perception in Falstaff, because he was in the position to see only the evil side of it.

Falstaff's Wit.

As much may be said of the wit of Falstaff as of his intellect. To be witty it is necessary to be able to discover quickly, and associate remote analogies. The intellect must be alert and perception acute. In such an intellect as Sir John's, wit will sometimes exist without humour; but, of course, he possesses both in a profound degree.

"Do thou amend thy face, and I'll amend my life; thou art our admiral, thou bearest the lantern in the poop, but 'tis in the nose of thee; thou art the knight of the burning lamp."

In these words he likens Bardolph's face to the lamp of a ship. Again, his speech describing his soldiers, where he tells us that he has got

"in exchange of a hundred and fifty soldiers, three hundred and odd pounds."

With this object in view he had

"pressed me none but such toasts and butters, with hearts in their bellies no bigger than pins' heads, and they have bought out their services."

Falstaff's humour permeates everything he says, assuming many different forms. Sometimes he shows it by uttering speeches resplendent of a virtue which he is far from feeling. For instance, he tells the Chief Justice that he has lost his voice through hollooing and singing anthems; that he has become fat through sighing. And when the King's aged messenger comes to Eastcheap, he asks solemnly.

"What doth gravity out of bed at midnight?"

This humour of Falstaff's stands alone, a kind by itself. The amusing quality in his conversation is the bland manner in which he utters falsehoods; instance his statements that sighing made him fat. Falstaff never sighed in his life, unless it was when he could

"get no remedy against this consumption of the purse!"

Indeed, Sir John will not allow himself to be reduced to a sighing frame of mind. He considers every problem of life totally without regard to sentiment, which finds no place in his make-up.

By this character Shakespeare teaches us that the sentimental, spiritual side of things must enter into every man's life—unless he be a Falstaff. See how the knight sums up honour—which

"pricks me on; but what if it prick me off?"

From his point of view this logic is perfect. Honour, in the eyes of a Falstaff, only pays God the debt of a life before it is due. Therefore, honour is not worth seeking. If honour would have purchased satin, settled his tavern accounts, and furnished him for ever with sack, Sir John Falstaff would have been a brave soldier.

Falstaff never "did anyone a good turn"; he loved nobody. He treated everyone badly; Mistress Quickly and the rest. He had not a single virtue—yet we enjoy his company. Henry V. knew him well, when he observed, at the close of the play:

"Reply not to me with a fool-born jest."

[No. 4 of this series will be published in next week's "Era."]

THE WAR OFFICE TOPICAL BUDGET AND PICTURE NEWS.

MR. HALL CAINE'S SPEECH.

The exhibitors and the principal members of the film trade were entertained at lunch at the Criterion Restaurant on Friday, Dec. 14, by "The War Office Topical Budget and Picture News." In the absence of Lord Beaverbrook, owing to illness, Mr. A. E. Newbould took the chair. Upwards of 250 guests were present. The speakers, besides the chairman, were Mr. Hall Caine, Mr. W. G. Barker, Mr. Jury, Mr. F. R. Goodwin, and Mr. W. G. Faulkner.

Mr. A. E. Newbould addressed the gathering on "The War Office Topical Budget and Picture News," which, he reminded his hearers, belonged to the War Office Cinematograph Committee, of which Lord Beaverbrook is chairman. All profit made would go to war charities. The object of the Budget was to keep the country informed from week to week with what was happening at the front, and with the war aims of the Allies. The aid rendered by the screen in these directions was invaluable. Dealing with propaganda work, Mr. Newbould said that the object for which the amusement caterer existed was for entertaining and amusing the public first, last and all the time. Anything else was bad business. But the War Office films being entertaining and absorbingly interesting, went on their merits. The obvious slide was not so successful as the appeal that was well wrapped up in a picture story. Mr. Newbould asked the Government departments to consult the trade as to the manner in which appeals should be made in order to get the best results. The Budget must be turned out so that it would command a place on the screen. Mr. Newbould announced that Mr. Oswald Stoll was putting the Budget on at all his theatres immediately, and concluded with an appeal to exhibitors to support the Budget because it helped on the war.

Mr. Hall Caine, in proposing "The Trade," said:

The first form, not necessarily the highest form, of prosperity one could wish for the cinema industry is material prosperity. Few industries have developed so rapidly. It is a startling fact that within the short space of ten or fifteen years the cinema industry has become one of the fourth or fifth largest industries in the world.

The Entertainments Tax.

A distinguished member of the Ministry, whose duty it has lately been to travel far and wide on the business of the war, told me the other day that wherever he went, at home or abroad, in large cities or small villages, he found the cinema theatre there, with its doors always open. I ventured to suggest that it would be good to keep them open—not to run the risk of closing them by any unfair taxation. That is a warning to our law-makers which may particularly apply to the present time. To ask the cinema theatres to show as many people as possible what the nation is doing for the war, and at the same time to impose such legislation as may have the effect of making the people as few as possible, is both foolish and unfair. I shall certainly never encourage that policy. I am no one having authority, and therefore I make no promises, but you may rely upon it that so far as I have influence, in the putting out of any film for which I am responsible I shall request (I cannot say more) that no entertainment taxation shall be allowed to imperil its chances of success.

The second form of progress I could wish for the cinema industry is progress in public usefulness. Man does not live by bread alone. He is a self-respecting creature, and the least of us wants to feel that his work is, one way or another, of some consequence not only to himself but also to the community.

If the cinema industry ever had any unnecessary humility on this head, it must have been dispelled during the past three years. Almost ever since the beginning of the war nearly all the warring nations have employed the cinema industry as a means of war propaganda. It was a wise policy on the parts of the Governments so to use the cinema industry, and it was a wise policy also on the part of the cinema industry to allow itself to be so used.

To show Great Britain what France is doing for the war, and to show France what Great Britain and her dependencies are doing is desirable and necessary for harmony and unity of effort between allied nations waging war over a vast area of the world. Pity we have not had more of such pictorial exhibitions. Russia, for example, might have been saved to us if it had been possible to show her, by means of moving pictures, that she was not bearing the whole burden of the war, as Kerensky so erroneously and so criminally told her. And if we on our part had been able to see by means of vivid and searching films what the condition of the poor wretched Russian soldier was in those early days when he was sent on to the battlefields without proper weapons, or even proper clothes, sometimes without boots, and often without food, to be mown down like grass before the scythe, we might have been quicker to send help, and so have saved that unhappy country from the clutches of the unscrupulous anarchists who are now hurling it to disruption and perhaps death.

The allied nations owe a deep debt to the cinema industry for their far-reaching international services in making their peoples known to each other.

Greater Work for the Cinema.

But the cinema industry will, I trust, soon go one step further, and show the world, not only how the Allies are fighting, but what they are fighting for. Our newspapers tell us that the integrity of Belgium has been violated, that a great part of its beautiful country has been laid waste, that its men have been enslaved, that its women have been outraged, that its young girls have been rounded up and secretly deported to unknown destinations, and that even its little children have been exposed to unimaginable cruelties. But terrible as this story is, what is it when narrated to neutral nations who live far away from the scene of such atrocities, unless they can be made to see them as with their own eyes, and thus realise that the peoples of the world are members one of another, belonging to a large relationship, a great brotherhood, and therefore that a wrong done to one is a wrong done to all. Then our statesmen tell us that we are fighting for humanity, civilisation, the destruction of military tyranny, and the right of free men to live at peace among free men. But these are, after all, abstract ideas, and, however eloquently expressed, what are they even to the multitude of our own people who are being called upon day by day to make cruel sacrifices that the war may go on, to see their homes broken up, and to know that their dear ones who went away may never come back, unless they can be made concrete and actual by the sight of authentic facts of inhumanity and barbarity, which, coming right home to them, make them realise that it is better not merely to suffer and to starve, but to die rather than to come under the enslavement of a damnable military system which would crush them body and soul. The cinema can do this work as nothing else can do it—neither newspaper, nor sermon, nor drama, nor novel, nor speech in Parliament—and we are hoping that it may soon be done.

Don't be afraid of a film that is inspired by such a purpose. Whatever its imperfections, it cannot be a dull one anyway. The war is full of thrilling, palpitating human drama, and the author would be stone-blind who could not see it. There is a mine of tragedy, pathos, and even comedy in this terrible war that will, I believe, bring people to your cinema theatres who have never been there before, without sending one of your old customers away. I should like to be able to prove that to you, and I am working early and late in the hope of showing that a film designed to illustrate the war aims of the allied countries may spell profit as well as propaganda.

Mr. W. G. Barker responded for "The Trade." He reminded the company that there had been in existence for some years a Topical Committee of manufacturers who had asked the Government for 18 months or two years to adopt the plan now worked by the War Office Committee. The War Office would not have it. But the instant they were making some money out of the scheme the War Office "pinched the dog after we had had the trouble of breeding and rearing it. It is a strong pup, and the Government must, therefore, have it!" If the exhibitors were not to be permitted to make money, then they would require a Government subsidy. The public wanted to be amused and not educated, unless the education were given in a sly manner that defied detection. The Government were by this scheme taking over a portion of the exhibitors' business; and, having in mind the experience of the National Telephone Company, he had no objection so long as the move were not "the thin edge of the wedge" which might ultimately be driven by the State into the film trade. The arrangement should be clearly stated to be for the duration of the war only.

Mr. W. G. Faulkner proposed "The Exhibitors," and Mr. F. R. Goodwin, responding, said:

You have no doubt become fully aware of the size and the character of the industry I represent. You will know that there are upwards of 4,500 picture theatres in this country. That the capital invested is upwards of £20,000,000. That 1,056,000 visits are made annually to our entertainments, so that it is sometimes said that practically one-half of the population visits our shows once a week. That we cater for the highest as well as the lowliest subject of our country.

In the topical budget now taken over to be run by the State for the State, we have marked another epoch in this age and time of marvels.

But a short while ago it was the serious concern of our trade that a few doubtless well-meaning people had managed to fix upon our shoulders the burden of all the juvenile crime, most of the immorality, and possibly even a share in any increase there might be at any time in infant mortality. A strict and serious investigation undertaken at the request of the trade has now disposed of these charges, and it is needless for me to say that my trade emerges from its trial without a stain upon its character; and I believe that the State will be glad of this, that in touching our trade you will not be defiled.

Popularity of the Topical Budget.

There is no part of our show more popular with us or our public than this portion which deals with the news and events of the day. Drama is well, very well; and so is a good comedy or a rollicking farce. But to me the ever present marvellous character of our entertainment must always consist of the portrayal of the events of the day, often within an hour or two of the actual happening. Only yesterday a striking example of this was manifested. Enterprise had prepared and produced a film of Jerusalem 1,000 feet in length, giving, as only the film can give, a full and exact impression of the Holy City. Forty copies were printed and issued, so that practically as our great leader, General Allenby, made his entry into the town, 80,000 Londoners were yesterday able to be with him in spirit. You will know how rapidly that number will grow into millions.

I therefore welcome without stint the advent of the State into the practical politics of filmland. I would only venture one suggestion. We in strong positions in theatreland can afford the goods. But is that enough for your purposes? You have a constant and an urgent message to convey with your pictures. Do not be content with a percentage of our audiences. You want them all. See to it that some method is devised whereby the small man with a little theatre holding perhaps 300 people gets your films as I with my 3000 audience can afford to do. There are able, well-informed men round this thing. Let them get out a scheme whereby the small man may help as well as the large. Profit is not so important as publicity. Grade prices therefore to suit the small as well as the large. Print more copies, recover them early, and use up the junk quickly for its purpose, a noble one, I understand, to waterproof the aeroplanes which in God's good time will confound our enemy.

Incidentally, it is necessary to keep us in business. In that regard I am going to trespass for a moment or two. We have meekly, but often, endeavoured to express to the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the ill-advised entertainment tax has hurt us. Some of us it has killed, others are sadly wounded; a few it has driven mad. In the land of the red rose some 70 exhibitors have solemnly pledged themselves that until the tax is removed they will not show any patriotic propaganda films. I deplore this attitude. I do not believe it is said seriously. As a Manchester-born man, I think the bark is worse than the bite. But it does show without doubt that a serious grievance exists. I am not one of those who say the tax must go. Of many things in the last two years it has been said that they must go, but they go not. The field of amusement is too prolific for any Chancellor to ignore. But the trouble is this. At this moment we are the only trade, and we have the only commodity which is priced net at pre-war prices. With the terrific rise in all adjuncts to our business this must mean one of two things. Either we were remarkably fortunate before the war, or we have been prevented in some way from coming into line with all other commodities. As I was in the business before the war, and possessed no Rolls Royce car nor yacht, I say that our pre-war profits were normal and ordinary considering the fluctuating nature of our business.

Therefore it was the other thing. Twice we were on the eve of adjusting our prices to our conditions, and twice the Chancellor with almost uncanny precision prestalled us. We do not resist a tax. Look at America. That great nation, born from the loins of old England, profits by our errors, and starts with her mother's horrid example clear before her. She acts wisely. The tax there is 10 per cent. on the turnover. I ask you, sir, and those about you, to support my trade in her plea that the next Budget may revise the Entertainment Tax in so far as picture theatres are concerned, so that the tax may thereafter be 10 per cent. upon our gross takings.

This will cost the Treasury some three millions of pounds. It will save our business. It will turn every showman into a grateful and ardent supporter of the Government which effects the change, and it will avoid the bankruptcy which at this time threatens another 1,000 theatres on top of the other 1,000 who have gone under with the ill-considered, ill-advised, and unwise burden.

I assure you the great, strong heart of the film world beats true and sound. I wish the project well. I promise it every support.

Mr. Jury, in proposing "The Chairman," assured those present that the only object of the War Office Committee was to get more support from exhibitors for the Topical Budget, which helped the war, and he gave his word that the Budget would pass out of the committee's hands back to private ownership either by public auction or otherwise on the conclusion of the war.

In acknowledging the toast, Mr. A. E. Newbould disassociated the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association from the [illegible] of a northern association, who ha[illegible] a resolution refusing to show th[illegible] films until the entertainment tax w[illegible]fied or removed. That, said Mr. N[illegible] emphatically, was not the right [illegible] adopt.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Ladies' Guild and Royalty.

A distinguished honour was conferred upon members of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild at the Victoria Palace on Monday, when the officers of the Guild were presented to Queen Mary. Mr. George Ashton presented the president, Miss Vesta Tilley, who in turn presented Mrs. Charles Coborn, vice-president, and Miss Lottie Albert, hon. treasurer.

After Mrs. Osborn had made her speech from the stage, in which she thanked all the helpers, Her Majesty sent round word that she would be pleased to purchase all that remained over of the chocolates in order to send them to the Guild Orphanage. Under present conditions, however, the amount of confectionery was, of course, limited, and there were no sweetmeats left for the Royal gift to be made.

A Revue Record.

Mr. Albert de Courville was responsible for seven of the productions in London theatres in one week recently, and six of them were revues. Apart from "Zig-Zag" at the Hippodrome, "Here and There" at the Empire," and "The 13th Chair" at the Duke of York's, he had the touring version of "Zig-Zag" at the New Cross Empire, "Razzle-Dazzle" at Walthamstow Palace; "Joyland" at Chelsea Palace, and "Good-By-ee" at the Wood Green Empire.

Albert de Courville's Discoveries.

The beautiful Persian scene in "Here and There" at the Empire was the first effort of a young Parisian artist named M. d'Amar, discovered by Mr. Albert de Courville. Frederick W. Chappelle, the composer of the music for the new revue, was another discovery by Mr. de Courville, who got him to write the score of "Smile."

Jay Laurier.

A welcome addition to the cast of "Here and There" at the Empire is Jay Laurier, who joined the cast on Saturday. If I mistake me not, this is the genial Jay's first appearance in revue. New scenes have been introduced, in which the unctuous one is seen to great advantage.

Mr. G. P. Huntley's Dogs.

Mr. G. P. Huntley, I hear, has broken out as a collector, and as he is no ordinary comedian, so is he no ordinary collector. It is neither china nor stamps, nor any of the usual things that George collects, but dogs. Until his appearance at the Palace he has been touring the halls with his sketch, "Selling a Pup." It is necessary for the purposes of the playlet to have a pup, and as he has not been able to find one that has mastered the art of keeping young for ever, he has had to keep replacing them. In the meantime a steady affection has grown for each one in turn, with the result that he is at present running a kennel of dogs amounting up to date to about ten.

Kenna Bros.' Quick Descent.

When playing at the Coliseum recently Conn and his partner had an experience which they are not anxious to repeat. Just as the curtain was rising, and they had both got into the machine, it crashed on to the stage. Fortunately, neither of the occupants was seriously injured, but both got a severe shaking and a few bruises. They continued their performance right through. Conn's chief worry was about his machine, or the remains of it, and he was determined to put matters right in time for the next afternoon's performance, which he did, after five hours' work.

Marie Lloyd for the Empire.

I hear that in all probability Marie Lloyd will be the new star for the Empire early in the New Year. Marie has had several tempting offers for revue from time to time, and if this materialises, as I have every reason to believe it will, it will surely be "some" revue, when headed by our queen of comediennes.

The Stage Society in Variety.

The daintiest and most delightful of the three items of the Incorporated Stage Society's Triple Bill at the Court last Monday was the little dancing comedy (with songs) arranged by Mlle. Donnet. I have reason for predicting that this interesting interlude will be seen ere long in certain London variety houses.

Harry at the "Hip."

A very interesting engagement at which I recently hinted has now been settled by Albert de Courville. By virtue of this arrangement, you will see in due course a certain rollicking comedian of Motoring, Fishing, and Billiardising habits again Tete-a-tete with you at the London Hippodrome. Doubtless he will once more inquire solicitously after the health of your Male Parent.

George Robey Returns to the Alhambra.

I have already told you that George Robey leaves the Hippodrome at the end of the run of "Zig-Zag" to return to the Alhambra for the new revue to be presented there by Oswald Stoll again per Grossmith and Laurillard. This new revue is, I hear, being written chiefly by Harry M. Vernon.

Mr. F. V. St. Clair.

Mr. F. V. St. Clair, who should be playing return dates on the Gulliver Circuit next week, has been released in order that he may meet, at his place in Shropshire, American friends who are coming over for duty in the war. Mr. St. Clair's half-sister is in command of the great English Mission in the Eighth-avenue, New York. She is a well-known speaker and editress, and is doing splendid work for the U.S.A. enlisted men, providing them with reading-rooms, &c.

Doing His Bit.

"Teddy" Granville (whose only son was killed in action) has had some exciting experiences while on duty as a "Special." On the morning of the last raid, Dec. 6, he was blown over by a bomb, luckily an incendiary one; and on a previous occasion was wounded by shrapnel. During the past seven months he has "put in" over 100 duties from 4 to 10½ hours. He organised the music hall team for a comic cricket match last September, which resulted in £61 being given to the Police Orphanage.

In addition to the Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund, he is now busy on a fund to supply a Guidance for the benefit of the Police where he resides, in the event of Vacancies. Up to the present he has over £50, and is like "Johnnie Ad[illegible]. If any members of the profession kindly help, his business address is 91, St. Martin's-lane, London.

The Dippy Magician.

Frank Van Hoven, the dippy magician, who was at the Palladium recently, was telling me that his first appearance on the stage was over twenty years ago, when he appeared in his uncle's (Paul Kleist) show as the boy on the ice. In those days it was not a case of twice, but several times, daily.

Frank made his début in this country in May last year at the Empire, Liverpool, and very shortly came to town, when he scored a big success at the Victoria Palace, and later at the Coliseum and other leading halls. It is good to hear that Frank is to remain in this country for some years, as I hear that some bookings extend into 1929.

'Love, Come From Your Hiding Place."

The Lawrence Wright Music Company have received the following wire:—"Outstanding single song success on Saturday at Royal, Edinburgh, was 'Love, Come From Your Hiding Place,' as sung by Hebe Bliss."

"Rooney's Rhymes."

Michael J. Rooney, "The Front Man," sends me a copy of "Rooney's Rhymes," which he is publishing for the benefit of the sufferers of the Halifax, Nova Scotia, disaster. It contains ten new songs, recitations, and patriotic lyrics, including 'Spare the Plough," which obtained the £50 prize offered by the "Irish Field."

Advent of the Cavendish Four.

Mr. D'Arcy Cavendish was asked some months ago to appear at a charity concert, and took along some of his pupils, including Grace Trenza, Pauline Leonard, and Lucy Weston. At the conclusion of their show they were requested to fill a gap caused by the non-arrival of a well-known comedian, and at a few minutes' notice appeared again, but with an entirely new and entertaining show, consisting of topical verses set to well-known tunes which they made up as they went along. This was so

[Photo Hana.

D'ARCY CAVENDISH.

successful that they were persuaded to introduce this impromptu act on the halls, and their recent success in town—particularly at the Coliseum—has proved that their act is very welcome.

By the way, Mr. Cavendish, who has a big reputation on the concert platform, had only appeared on the regular stage on one occasion previously when he took up Bertram Wallis's part in "Flying Colours" at the London Hippodrome, which he played for over two months. Mr. Cavendish also has a singing academy, and his pupils include Lilian Byrne and Dorothe Vernon. The former is the popular mezzo-soprano, who has made such a good impression on the L.T.V. halls of late; and the latter, who is at present with the Seven Mountebanks, goes on tour shortly in "The Happy Day," playing the leading part.

A Popular Return.

After a somewhat lengthy absence, the genial Mr. Charles Fountaine is once again installed at Moss' Empires, Ltd., as travelling supervisor and chief of the Stage Department. His return to his old post will be hailed with much satisfaction by members of the profession, with whom he has always been most popular.

The Man Who Rhymes to Order.

At the Hackney Empire this week, Horace Barnes, the man "who rhymes to order," is easily able to meet the demands of the audience, who do their best to "floor" him. Horace was formerly a journalist, and has done his bit, being discharged some time ago as unfit for further service.

A Special Constable's Concert.

Mr. Harry Masters, special constable, and chief of staff of the London Theatres of Varieties, arranged a very attractive concert, held at the E. Div. Headquarters, on Saturday last. The following stars appeared:—Leo Bliss, Bert Terrell, Roberty, Wilson Hallett, Hayman and Franklyn, Isa Wise, Jay Whidden, Whit Cunliffe, W. H. Fox, Maidie Scott, Percy Honri, Lilian Byrne, R. G. Knowles, Marie Dainton, Rene Ralph, and Arthur Gilroy. Mr. Charles Adams and Mr. Arthur Gibbons assisted Mr. Masters in arranging the programme, and the concert was a great success.

Entertaining Bristol Wounded.

Sir Edward James—a former Lord Mayor of Bristol and a director of the Imperial Tobacco Company—entertained a large party of wounded soldiers from the local war hospitals at the Bristol Art Gallery last week, and gladly accepted the courteous offer of Mr. S. Fortescue Harrison, the popular manager, for the artistes appearing at the Bristol Hippodrome to supply the musical progamme after tea.

Miss Marjorie Fulton, comedienne and dancer, was a very popular turn, and a greatly enjoyed number by Peter Donald and Meta Carson was "Doing Very Well, Thank You." Elven Hedges was a great favourite with his rag-time work; and the Tommies waxed enthusiastic over the songs of Miss Nellie Hughes. It was a very merry party, and the "cease fire" obviously sounded all too soon for the enjoyment of the "boys."

Henschel's Agency.

In reference to our report last week of the licensing of agents before the London County Council, Mr. John H. Henschel writes:—"I beg to state that my firm is 'Henschel's Agency,' and that this is my own name, and that I am not related, nor have I any connection, with any other agent or person. I have been licensed by the London County Council ever since the inception of the licensing laws."

For Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

In aid of the "Birmingham Gazette" Soldiers' Comforts Fund, through which over £20,000 worth of tobacco, cigarettes, and other "comforts" have been sent to the Front, a variety matinée, which was arranged by Mr. H. Greenfield, of the commercial department of the "Gazette," took place at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, last Saturday.

Among those contributing to a long programme were Billy Merson, Sammy Shields, Will van Allen, Rich Hayes, George Gilbey, Fred Gilbert, Haley's Juveniles, Jimmy Godden, Harry Ray, Miss Helen Charles, Miss Dorma Leigh, M. Gheradi and Mlle. Rita Gheradi.

Miss Lily Langtry

finished her music hall season last week at Tunbridge Wells, where she was sharing the head of the bill, and was a great favourite. This week Miss Langtry starts rehearsals for pantomime at Eastbourne, where she plays "Crusoe" for Messrs. Murray King and Clark at the Devonshire Park Theatre.

Imperial Memorial for Ex-Sailors and Soldiers.

Miss Jose Collins is organising a special entertainment to be given at the Alhambra on Sunday afternoon, December 30 (under the auspices of the National Sunday League) on behalf of the Imperial Memorial for Sailors and Soldiers.

The Memorial is to be raised by the Veterans' Association to all Service men who have fallen in the war, and is to take the form of the development of the existing Veterans' Club for the use and benefit of all sailors and soldiers who have served.

A Favourite Returns.

Miss Maud Aston, who was appearing at Bristol Empire last week with her company in "Squibs," was, after a long absence, reappearing before cordial admirers. Some years ago she made a great hit in Bristol in the "Jack and Jill" pantomime, in which Tom E. Murray, Mabel Russell, Fred Allandale, and Nipper Lane were also making first appearances. Miss Aston has toured much since then, in South Africa and elsewhere, in musical comedy.

Popular in Paris.

Ford and Truly, the latter the only mimic dog on the stage, commenced a four-week season at the Noveau Cirque last Friday, and reports to hand record that this original show is proving a big attraction. At the same hall Jimmy Fletcher opens on Friday next for a similar period. At the Olympia, Ben Beyer has been engaged for a further two weeks, making six weeks in all. Ben and his charming wife, Augusta, have made a very favourable impression with the Parisians. On Jan. 1 they open at Bordeaux for three weeks, after which they return home to the States, and will not be seen here until the year after next.

Compliment for Bristol Hippodrome.

Mr. Stoll's manager at Bristol, Mr. S. Fortescue Harrison, has received a unique compliment this week from the local playhouse under his management. It is Tank Week in Bristol, so Mr. Fortescue Harrison approached the powers that be and offered them his usual space and position in the local papers for booming the War Loan Certificates instead of boosting the turns at the Bristol Hippodrome. This offer was gladly seized, and the Lord Mayor of Bristol (Alderman Frank Sheppard) consented to write the first appeal to his fellow-citizens,

Apart from the service he is rendering to his country, Mr. S. Fortescue Harrison is to be congratulated on the compliment paid to the house of which he is the popular and courteous manager, for only a few years ago (writes our Bristol correspondent) the idea of a Lord Mayor of Bristol using a music hall or its advertising space as the channel for a message to his fellow-citizens would have been almost unthinkable. It is a great personal compliment, too, and demonstrates that Mr. Fortescue Harrison has succeeded in his effort to place the Bristol Hippodrome on a level with all that is best in the Bristol amusement world.

"The Lads of the Village."

Described by the producer, Mr. Joe Peterman, as "a melodramatic comedy war revue, "The Lads of the Village" is making its appearance at the Finsbury Park Empire after a successful run at the Oxford and in the provinces. 'Erb, V.C., the lad, is played by that capital comedian, Bob Stevens, and a strong cast includes Belle Mora, the popular Scottish soubrette, James Cowley, Wilbert Gamble, Dave Royston, Wilfred Essex, and Frederick Maxwell.

Beauty and Bravery.

A platoon of pretty girls and a number of wounded soldiers, among whom are three D.C.M.'s, also add to the popularity of this production, in which "Life in the Trenches" and "An Attack at Dawn" have been realistically treated by the producer, in scenes which will provide plenty of comedy and many exciting moments.

American Artistes and Brinsworth.

The American Vaudeville Artistes Fund for Brinsworth, the appeal originated by Mooney and Holbein and Jesse Jacobson and the Two Rascals, to which I referred last week, has already met with a very gratifying response. Following are the contributions received up till Monday night:—Lee White and Clay Smith, £5; Lew Kelly, £5; R. G. Knowles, £5; Rascals and Jacobson, £5; Mooney and Holbein, £5; Robert Reilly, £3 3s.; Manny and Roberts, £2 2s.; Two Bobs, £2 2s.; Four Swifts, £2 2s.; Van Hoven, £2 2s.; Bill Manning, £1 1s.; Dave Carter, £1 1s.; Harry Radford, £1 1s.; Chas. Warren and Rachel Lowe, £1 1s.; Pete Wiser, £1 1s.; Chas. K. Cohen, £1 1s.; Daley and Healy, £1; Cornalla and Eddy, £1; Tucker, £1 1s.

A Tommy's Christmas Card.

Sergeant Hammond (Stuart Cleveland) sends me cheery Christmas and New Year greetings on a capitally illustrated card, the frontispiece of which shows a trio of happy warriors carolling around the camp fire. In another illustration, "Memories—and Hopes," 1917-18, is seen a Tommy, looking back on a ruined village in France, and apparently heading for England, home, and a happier Christmas.

THE PILGRIM.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."

For the Christmas and New Year holidays the delightful fairy play, "Bluebell in Fairyland," will be given at matinées only each day, commencing on Monday, Dec. 24, at the Alhambra. "Round the Map" will be found in the evening bill as usual.

Miss Ellaline Terriss is to play her original part of Bluebell, in which she was first seen at the Vaudeville on Dec. 18, 1901. The Alhambra company will be 100 strong. Mr. Dan Agar will play Dickie, the crossing-sweeper, and other principal parts will be enacted by J. C. Buckstone,

MISS ELLALINE TERRIS.
In "Bluebell in Fairyland."

A. B. Mackay, John Coy, Miss St. Acham, Mabel Hicks, Elizabeth Watson, Cissie Lennard, Vera Howick, Mr. Harry Phydora, Johnny Danvers, Fred Sumpter, Wally Scott, and Nancy Mercer.

"Bluebell in Fairyland" was among the first of those fairy plays for children which broke away from the accepted stories of pantomime. In the present revival it has been brought up to date, but will retain its old-fashioned fairy-tale charm. The story of the bootblack and the little beggar child and their adventures in Bluebell Land is as sweetly childish and charming as of yore. Only nowadays there is mention of Tanks, and the man who goes to sleep for years asks when he wakes up if the war is ended. There are new songs and new dances—notably one very pretty ballet arranged by Adeline Genée.

"GIGGLES AND GIRLS."

The slight plot of this revue, produced at the Camberwell Empire on Dec. 10, concerns the love affair of an American heiress, and we are taken from the village of Bloomfield to Cairo before the lady is wed. Some original comedy is introduced, and the novel effects and pretty girls in delightful dresses singing some good songs and executing clever dances add greatly to the attractiveness of the revue. Heading the cast is that popular comedian, Arthur Rigby, whose window-cleaner study in the second scene was a gem. In the comedy line Mr. Len Gilroy also scored greatly. Mr. Reg Callan and Mr. A. Rigby, jun., assist in the fun-making. Among the ladies dainty and pretty Miss Florrie Bond scored quite a triumph. She acts cleverly, has an excellent voice, and is a fascinating dancer. Her "taxi" number and "I'm in Love" were both admirably rendered, and she made a big hit in "I'm the Leading Lady of the Show," with dance following. Miss Nellie Carlyle, another delightful artiste, sang well "Maybe I Don't Want You" and "The Simple Life," and Miss Mary Rigby in a couple of scenes with Mr. Kilroy and a duet also made a success.

"THE FAN."

Play, in One Act, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Halifax, on Dec. 13.

Elise Mortmere .....Sybil Holroyd
Shirley Rathbone..K. Malpass Grandage

Mr. K. M. Grandage's experiment in Grand Guignol drama is being watched with interest, and the special performance of "The Fan" at a matinée at the Halifax Theatre Royal last Thursday, must have fulfilled his most sanguine hopes. The little piece, an adaptation from the French, is a real ten minutes' thriller, in which the humour is so skilfully interwoven that it relieves, without breaking up the intensity of the theme. The episode portrayed concerns the love of a weak man for a society butterfly addicted to drugs, and culminates in the triumph of his passion and the death of the girl.

Played by Sybil Holroyd and K. Malpass Grandage, "The Fan" riveted the attention of the audience from start to finish, both artistes showing a subtle appreciation of dramatic cause and effect.

Professional patrons of Gows will regret to hear of the illness of Mr. Charles Wall, familiarly known as "Charlie," who is laid up with a severe attack of rheumatism. His many friends will join us in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Talbot O'Farrell Fit Again.

Talbot O'Farrell, the popular Irish entertainer, is making his reappearance at the Hippodrome, Bristol, this week. An illness prevented his appearance after crossing to the Emerald Isle a few weeks ago, and he was obliged to lay up in Belfast. Bristol audiences are giving him a hearty reception.

Journalists' Matinée at Liverpool.

On Wednesday last, at the Liverpool, Olympia, a gigantic matinée was held on behalf of the National Union of Journalists' Distressed Soldiers' Fund, the result being the raising of about £800. The programme consisted of "The Better 'Ole," and varieties provided by Neil Kenyon, Alfredo, Jennie Benson, Ernest Shand, Dusty Rhodes, and Eva Dayne. The vast audience, among whom were hundreds of wounded men, for whom tickets had been bought, thoroughly enjoyed the proceedings.

Praise for Pressmen and Pros.

During an interval the Lord Mayor said that no class of profession had passed in patriotism or contributed more largely to the demands which were involved in this war than pressmen. He thanked Moss' Empires and Mr. Frank Allen, their managing director, for having kindly lent that magnificent hall; Mr. E. W. James, the local manger, for the spirit he had exhibited in connection with the effort; and last, but not least, the artistes, for of all the people on the face of the earth, none were warmer-hearted in their desire to help all with whom they were brought in contact.

ALFRED WELLESLEY

"BARON" in "CINDERELLA,"

THEATRE ROYAL, GLASGOW.

The most critical audience and Press in the Kingdom give an unqualified verdict—"A GREAT SUCCESS."

GLASGOW DAILY RECORD.

"The Baron Shortocash (Alfred Wellesley), and . . . his page, are characters who provide the best of laughter."

THE SCOTSMAN.

"Mr. Alfred Wellesley as the Baron, the chief comedian, did splendidly, and was ably supported by . . ."

GLASGOW NEWS.

"Mr. Alfred Wellesley as the Baron does not worry about his impecuniosity, and is worth the money which will probably be his for his spirited acting."

MANCHESTER CHRONICLE.

"It has not the slightest objectionable feature; it is pantomime in the truest and best sense of the word. Mr. Alfred Wellesley as the Baron kept the audience in roars of laughter."

GLASGOW HERALD.

"What is sure to be another triumph to the 'Royal Calendar of successes.' A stream of rollicking fun and revelry, the talent of the members as a whole being above the average. As Baron Shortocash, Mr. Alfred Wellesley is a resourceful comedian, and with his page, Tippit, he accounts largely for the flow of humour which is so prominent a feature of the pantomime."

SUNDAY MAIL AND RECORD.

"The Baron finds an excellent delineator in Alfred Wellesley, whose fine performance earns well merited applause."

GLASGOW TIMES.

"The fun providing rests naturally on the comedians, and in this regard the pantomime is strong. Mr. Alfred Wellesley, a most resourceful comedian, plays the Baron with rich drollery. He is rarely off the stage."

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

POLITICAL BAROMETERS AND A MATCHLESS PERFORMANCE.

There is no more reliable barometer of political popularity than the variety theatre. On the whole, of course, the auditoria of our houses of entertainment have borne in the past a distinctly Unionist bias—witness the storms of applause which always greeted the mention of Joe Chamberlain's name a dozen years or so ago, even though the programme which he was then advocating brought ruin upon the Tories in the sensational election of 1906. Now, however, when nominally there are no Unionists and no Liberals, and every child that's born into this world alive is either a little knock-out-blow-ite or else a little Pacifist, the bias has largely disappeared.

AT THE PALLADIUM.

People will find a very useful guide at the Palladium this week in Whit Cunliffe, who's "Mr. Who" song is full of point and enthusiastically received by the audience. The first verse is a hit at food-hoarders; the second a hit at Northcliffe (applauded with zealous vigour); the third a hit at Bottomley, who, to my surprise, is announced as running "a penny paper of a Socialist trend" (loudly acclaimed, though taken less seriously than the Northcliffe lines); and the fourth a panegyric of Lloyd George (heartily endorsed again, though I fancy it would have gone still better six months ago). Cunliffe is in as good form just now as he has ever been. He has real vitality. Unlike many comedians of his type, he does not have to pump up his fizz. You might say that Whit was "born fizzy." And he has one of the most infectious walks round the stage ever exhibited.

I was sorry Dorothy Varick had to give up half-way through her turn owing to a very bad cold. It was a bitter day, Monday, and she oughtn't to have ventured out on it. But Wilkie Bard was in excellent form with "Alice, Where Are You?" and his bath-chairman, while Hetty King, whose name would be Hetty Queen, perhaps, if she weren't a male impersonator, scored heavily as a dude, a "Sammy," and a Jack Tar. This last song, with its mummy-and-dad-at-the-cottage-door sentiment, was particularly popular—indeed, "dear old mother" is a sure card for sentimental songsters these days. Witness "Down Texas Way" ("Dear old Mother, dear old Dad, Make them happy, make them glad") and "Tennessee" ("The roses round the door Make me love mother more"). Parenthetically, with respect to this last quotation, I have so often been impressed by the slenderness of the thread on which the Tennessee singer's love for his mother depends, that the following mock refrain keeps recurring in my mind:—

"The roses round the door
Make me love mother more,
But when they're in the bud
She scarce'y stirs my blood,
And when the roses are spent
I'm quite indifferent
To my old mother,
My dear old mother,
Way down in Tennessee."

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But to return to the Palladium bill. One of the most-laughed-at things in this bill is Old Bill, interpreted by Mr. Harry Thurston, in "The Johnson 'Ole." Daly and Healy and Mazuz and Mazette also get a good bag of guffaws, Cissie Lupino does some delightful specialty dancing (especially in the fairy queen costume), while for real music there's Elsie Southgate with her violin, and Mabel Manson with her voice. Altogether, a round dozen of the best.

AT THE METROPOLITAN.

In spite of a couple of *contretemps*, I enjoyed myself vastly at the Metro. The first mishit occurred at the box-office, where the gentleman in charge held my visiting-card up to the light to find out whether it was genuine. Apparently the water-mark was all right, for he gave me my seat. But when I reached it—horror of horrors!—I found *I hadn't got a match*, and I had to sit all through the show with an unlit cigar tantalising my teeth. So I found it was a matchless show, and what higher praise could I give than that?

"Introduce Me!" was the main item—or "Interdooce Me!" as Russell Brandow pronounces it. Brandow plays the part of Wandering Sam, a nigger who aids and abets his mate in posing as an Indian Prince, and pretty well every word he utters brings down the house. In the banquet scene he indulges in some of the most risible horseplay of the century, and his business with jelly would make a cat with drowned kittens laugh.

"Introduce Me!" is full of what one of our producers calls "bimp." It teems with smacks in the eye and knock-down blows, and such-like primeval fun. But it is all so well done that I laughed too much to be able to complain. No, I won't emulate a certain eminent critic I know whom I've seen splitting his sides with laughter on first nights, and next morning has said in his notice that "of all the dreary, miserable, machine-made, &c., &c., he's ever seen, this is the &c., &c., &c." Fred Brand as the spoof king, Dick Henderson as a great many things (but always recognisable by his *cliché*, "Shurrup, what's-yer-name!"), Kitty Mills as a sprightly lady's-maid, and Iris Whyte as the heroine, all put in good work, and the scenery is much better than most provided for travelling revues of this type.

Previous to all this, we had seen Betancourt, whose chair-balancing act improves every time I see it, and Alec Regan, who does well with his "Samoa" song; so that, all things considered, I'm inclined to agree with the railway advertisements which proclaim that a man might do far worse than to go and live in Metro-land.

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much longer if you give them occasional

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London's Leading Theatrical Cleaners.

Notwithstanding the unprecedented strain on our resources we still give the same excellent service as hitherto, and which has made our name a Household Word in the Profession.

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GLASGOW SONGS AND SINGERS

THEATRE ROYAL

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM'S PRODUCTION.

THE GREAT BIG WORLD } MISS
BLACK-EYED SUSANS } DAISY
DOWN TEXAS WAY } DORMER.

DO YOU LIKE ME? DAISY DORMER AND JIMMY PULLEN.
YOU OUGHTN'T TO DO IT! MISS MONA MAGNET.
MY BABY SOLDIER BOY. MISS MARIE BRAYMAN.

ALHAMBRA

WYLIE AND TATE'S PRODUCTION.

BLACK EYED SUSANS. MISS ELLA RETFORD.
GREAT BIG WORLD. MISS SUSIE BELMORE.
DO YOU LIKE ME? ELLA RETFORD AND SUSIE BELMORE.

PRINCESS'S

RICHARD WALDON'S PRODUCTION.

GREAT BIG WORLD } MISS KITTY CURTIS.
BLACK EYED SUSANS }
MY OWN IONA } MISS SOPHIE FORREST.
WEARING 'EM HIGHER }
DOWN TEXAS WAY. RAIE AND ROSIE WALTERS.

These are Songs all Intelligent Artistes and Managers will use.

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At THEATRE ROYAL, GLASGOW,

DOWN TEXAS WAY

Exquisitely Sung to thunders of applause by

MISS DAISY DORMER,

AND

SWING ME IN THE MOONLIGHT

Delightfully Rendered with Sensational Success by

MISS MARIE BRAYMAN.

OTHER GREAT WINNERS

in the GLASGOW AND EDINBORO' PANTOS include—

THERE'S A GIRL FOR EVERY SOLDIER
I WANT YOU TO KNOW I MISS YOU
I RATHER LIKE IT
THAT'S THE STUFF TO GIVE 'EM

AND

IF I COULD TURN THE CLOCK BACK
OH! IT'S A LOVELY WAR
CHEERIO, SAILOR BOY
IPECACUANHA

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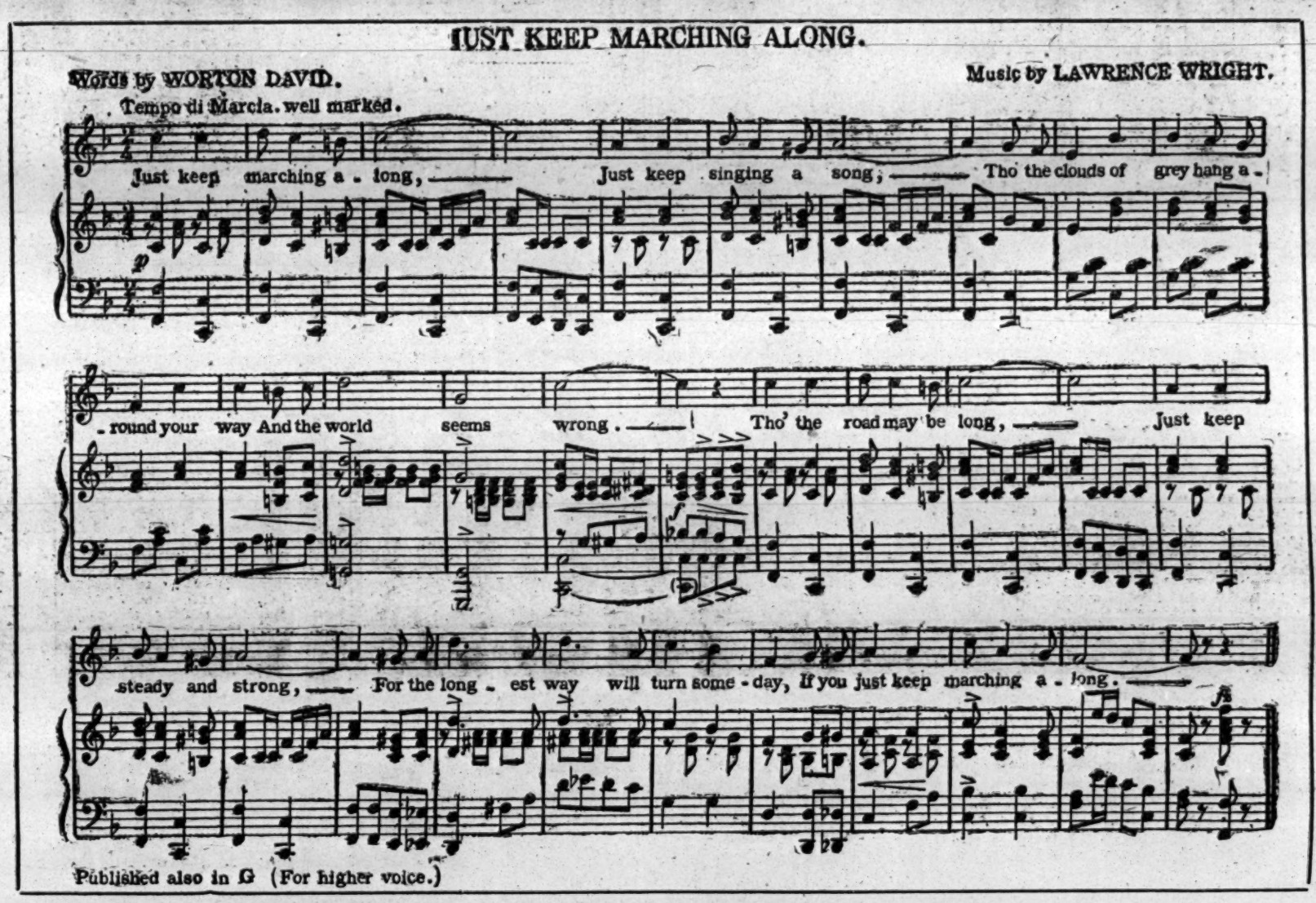
LAWRENCE (W)RIGHT THERE.

JUST KEEP MARCHING ALONG

SCOTLAND'S SUPREME SUCCESS.

The "Star" recently sent 1000 2/- Copies of a new March Song to the various Camp Concert Parties.

The "Daily Mirror" on Thursday last Headed an article with a March Song.

Which Song was it?

JUST KEEP MARCHING ALONG.
Words by WORTON DAVID.
Music by LAWRENCE WRIGHT.
Tempo di Marcia. well marked.
Just keep marching a - long, Just keep singing a song, Tho the clouds of grey hang a -
- round your way And the world seems wrong. Tho' the road may be long, Just keep
steady and strong, For the long - est way will turn some - day, If you just keep marching a - long.
Published also in G (For higher voice.)

A March Song was recently sold to an American publisher for 25,000 Dollars!

Which Song was it?

Look out for Startling Announcements re

"Just Keep Marching Along."

THE OTHER SENSATIONAL PANTOMIME SUCCESSES ARE

LOVE, COME FROM YOUR HIDING PLACE

WORDS BY WORTON DAVID. MUSIC BY HORATIO NICHOLLS (COMPOSER OF A DREAM OF DELIGHT).

The Hit of Fred Wyndham's Pantomime at Edinboro'. Will also be sung by Miss Haidee D'Rance in the Wyndham's production at Liverpool. Chosen by John Hart, Esq., for all his pantomimes, including T.R. Manchester, where it will be sung by MISS FLORENCE SMITHSON.

WHEN GOD GAVE YOU TO ME

THE BALLAD SUPREME

AND

IN MY DEAR OLD HOME-TOWN

FIXED FOR FRANCIS LAIDLER'S PRODUCTIONS AT LEEDS AND BRADFORD.

Ernie Mayne's Comedy Hits SUGAR and EAT LESS BREAD Fixed Everywhere.

SNOWTIME IN SWITZERLAND

THE ONE BIG PRINCIPAL GIRL SUCCESS.

The Compliments of the Season to all our Dear Friends at Home and Abroad.

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THE CINEMA COMMISSION.

DEPUTATION TO THE HOME SECRETARY.

On Friday the members of the Cinema Commission of Inquiry, which was appointed by the National Council of Public Morals, paid a visit to the Home Office formally to lodge its report, which has already been published.

THE BISHOP OF BIRMINGHAM.

In introducing the deputation the Bishop of Birmingham, who was the president of the Cinema Commission, explained the circumstances leading up to the establishment of the Commission, remarking that the cinema trade, he imagined, itself became startled at the responsibilities with which it was faced. It was a young industry, and hardly past its infancy, yet it had found its popularity as an amusement to be so great that practically the whole of the young and an immense majority of the adults of the country were its clients. Although it had approached the Home Office in order to get some established position and direct guidance, there were no permanent results achieved. Meanwhile complaints were being made as to the moral and physical dangers incidental to this amusement. The vast capital invested in the trade rendered it the bounden duty of those responsible to see that nothing happened which would endanger investments; and as a result of negotiations the Commission was set up, and included three members of the cinema industry.

As regarded the conclusions of the Commission, he had to admit that though there was a good deal that needed remedy, yet the cinema came out of the inquiry much better than he expected. The moral dangers might be grave, and the temptation to the less worthy exhibitors to produce undesirable films must sometimes be very great; but if the trade were brought under one great association such exhibitors would be stamped out, and there would be no market for hurtful films. As to the moral danger of the buildings themselves and the darkness within them, proper supervision and reasonable lighting would prevent anything of the kind. Happily there were certain temptations which were not present in the cinema, and the public-houses suffered when cinemas were opened. That there was no drinking in cinemas was helpful to sobriety. Regarding the censorship, all were satisfied with Mr. T. P. O'Connor, but they thought the appointment should be made by the Government. Local censorship was impossible, because of varying local views, which led to confusion.

MR. A. E. NEWBOULD.

Mr. A. E. Newbould, chairman of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, said the report was now being considered by the trade, and there was a desire in all quarters to fall into line with every practical suggestion for betterment, in the wise belief that the best interests of the industry were in that direction. Responsible men in the industry desired to render every assistance by co-operation with Government departments and local authorities to bring about such improvements as might be both wise and expedient. He suggested that the success of any negotiations which might be entered into between the trade and the authorities, or of any committee which might be formed, would be greatly enhanced if in some way the Commission, or a committee from the Commission, were included as a third party. Many of the difficulties were due to war conditions, and attempts to make sweeping alterations without realising present difficulties would either be doomed to complete failure, or would else very seriously and unjustly harm an industry which was already heavily burdened. It was the policy of all responsible members of the trade to so organise, control, and conduct this vast business as to eliminate all undesirable elements, and to utilise wholly for good the enormous influence at their disposal. The war had delayed their progress in that direction, and they had been very fully occupied in adjusting their business to the ever-changing conditions, and in keeping pace with new laws and orders which at one time threatened to close them down. He referred to labour restrictions, restrictions affecting machinery, plant, furniture, decoration, and buildings issued by the Ministry of Munitions, paper restrictions affecting advertisements, restrictions on import and export of films, restrictions on import of carbons, lighting restrictions, shortage and cost of fuel, duties on films, and last, but not least, the crushing burden to the small exhibitor of the Entertainment Tax. In face of all those difficulties, if the trade had not reached perfection it was not surprising, but it had, nevertheless, made great strides forward.

Other speeches were made by Mr. Kimmins, Dr. Marie Stopes, and the Rev. Principal A. E. Garvie.

HOME SECRETARY'S REPLY.

Sir George Cave, in reply, remarked that the "moving photographs" especially appealed to him when he was able to see the actual events of our time, and in this connection he recalled the wonderful pictures of the Delhi Durbar and the Polar Exploration, and, of course, the war films, which appealed so intimately to everyone. Then there were the dramatic pictures, which were of vital importance, and which often pictured things which could never possibly happen in real life. (Laughter.) Still they were none the less interesting for that. The main function of the cinema was to amuse. It was no worse for that, and ought not to be frowned upon in consequence. It had, too, a scientific value, and there was also an undoubted educational value. There were matters in connection with the cinema demanding consideration. The physical comfort of the audience, the question of plays, ventilation, freedom from fire dangers, lighting—all required minute attention and consideration. Regarding the avoidance of all risk of moral injury to the audience, obviously all that should be possible should be done in the way of lighting and in the seating arrangements. The most important problem was that of securing clean and healthy performances on the screens. He agreed with the Bishop of Birmingham that the moral danger might be very grave indeed. Not all censorship was good, but all had come to the conclusion that as censorship was necessary for the stage, so was it necessary for the cinema.

VARYING LOCAL DEMANDS.

Sir George recalled the history of the cinema, mentioning that the only legal apparatus at present at their disposal for the purpose of regulating cinema performances was the Act of 1909. That required that places should be licensed, and that the licences might contain certain conditions. The difficulty was, and quite naturally, the different manner in which the different licensing authorities looked on these matters, and those concerned with cinemas found that conditions varied greatly according to locality. In some places local authorities were more severe than in others. His predecessor, Sir H. Samuel, proposed a voluntary censorship scheme—an admirable idea, but it depended for its success on its universal acceptance. The proposals were assented to by practically every local authority in the country, but opposition came from trade organisations, and when he went to the Home Office there was only one thing for him to do. There was no chance of a voluntary system, so he broke off the negotiations, and contented himself with calling the attention of the local authorities to the matter and inviting them to give close attention to performances, and recommending the adoption of model conditions in their licences. His request had been widely adopted. Then the trade Advisory Board asked Mr. T. P. O'Connor to act as Censor, and Mr. O'Connor was therefore established as a sort of conscience of the trade. (Laughter.) There could not have been a better selection, for he had performed his function with skill and with complete independence. (Hear, hear.) They were all indebted to Mr. O'Connor.

Then the trade approached the National Council to organise an inquiry, and so the "Commission" was appointed, though he demurred at the use of the word, feeling that "Commission" should only be used in connection with Commissions appointed by Parliament. Still, the report of the Commission was valuable, and impressed him considerably. The recommendations were various, and some depended on the support of public opinion. Others could not be adopted without some legal or formal action.

MODEL CONDITIONS.

As for the conditions attaching to licences, those suggested by the Home Office had been in operation for about a year, and he was shortly asking the local authorities to send him the conditions which they had adopted, so that the Department could take advantage of the experience gained by the various local authorities. Then he would bear in mind the offer of assistance in the formulation of model conditions. To-day such conditions were only indirectly enforceable by law, and depended upon varied legal decisions. The conditions regarding the hours of attendance of children had not been upheld, for example. Regarding the State censorship, there was a notable advance in that direction. The trade did not dissent, though perhaps there was some hesitation. But the fact that the Commission reported in favour of a State censorship was a fact that he would note for future action.

CHILDREN AND THE CINEMA.

Mr. Lewis, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education, was present to represent Mr. Fisher, the Minister of Education, and he declared that the Board of Education would welcome steps to guard children against dangers, adding that the Department viewed with sympathy the suggestion that children should not be allowed in cinemas after 9 p.m. He also mentioned that the Board would consider the suggestion of a departmental inquiry into the educational value of the cinema. As a matter of fact, he said, even now local education authorities could provide cinemas for experimental purposes, or even send, during school hours, children to the cinemas to see educational films.

"Some" Afternoon.

The 1,000 wounded soldiers who last week were the guests of Sir Jesse and Lady Boot at a cinema matinée held at the Stoll Picture Theatre enjoyed themselves in right royal fashion. Mr. Robert Radford and Miss Carrie Tubb were responsible for the vocal part of the programme, whilst Miss Madge Titheradge contributed recitations. "A Gamble for Love" was the star picture. At the conclusion of the picture, Miss Violet Hopson, who is the leading lady in the film, handed ten 10s. notes to the holders of lucky numbers drawn from those given to each man on entering the theatre. Sir Jesse and Lady Boot were presented with an illuminated album with the names of all their guests inscribed therein, and every "Tommy" was given a parcel of comforts on leaving. It was voted altogether "Some afternoon."

Filmland

NEWS AND REVIEWS OF THE PICTURE WORLD

"CHEERFUL O'VERS."

UNSELFISH GIRL REGENERATES MERCENARY WOMAN.

Production ..... Triangle
Star ..... Bessie Love
Type ..... Domestic Drama
Length ..... 4,500 Feet
Release ..... April 22

How a money-grabbing old termagant is turned into a humane woman and a "cheerful giver" through the influence of a sweet-natured and unselfish girl, herself little more than a child, was shown at the Triangle trade show held at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Friday. Bessie Love enacts the daughter of a country vicar, who, to help her father, and in the garb of a boy, enters the service of Mrs. Gray, the hard-hearted woman referred to above. This person is not long in discovering the sex of the new assistant, who on account of her clever cooking and economy is allowed to remain on. The son of the house, an enthusiastic young chemist, asks his mother for a loan to enable him to complete his experiments, but is harshly refused. In desperation he plans to rob his mother, with the connivance of his girl secretary, but owing to Bessie the robbery is prevented. Eventually both son and mother are brought to reason, and Bessie becomes a loved member of a now happy household. The piece is well acted, and is very pleasing. [*See our Film Markings.*]

"SKINNER'S BABY."

DELIGHTFUL DOMESTIC COMEDY.

Production ..... Essanay
Stars ..Bryant Washburn and Hazel Daly.
Type ..... Domestic
Length ..... Five Parts
Controllers ..Film Booking Offices, Ltd.

A film, delightful in its simple appeal, was shown at the West End Cinema on Thursday. Young Mr. Skinner and his charming little wife are ideally happy until the visit of friends, and with them their little stranger," arouse their envy. A few weeks later, however, Skinner is overjoyed to learn from his wife that he may shortly expect to become a father. The impetuous young husband at once jumps to the conclusion that it will be a boy, and, after building many a castle in the air, rushes off to proclaim the news to all and sundry. In due course he is summoned to his wife's room, when the proud mother shows him a beautiful—girl! "Never mind, she's more wonderful than a boy," ejaculates Skinner, and the curtain falls on a pretty picture of domestic felicity. Hazel Daly and Bryant Washburn looked and acted the principal parts to a nicety.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

KEEP
YOUR EYE
ON
GAUMONT
ANNOUNCEMENTS!

"HULA HULA LAND."

SHIPWRECKED CHEF'S ADVENTURES ON CANNIBAL ISLAND.

Production ..... Triangle-Keystone
Star ..... Maud Wayne
Length ..... Two Parts
Release ..... Feb. 18

A shipwrecked cook has the time of his life on a cannibal island, he having ingratiated himself with the dusky and scantily clad damsels of the place. But a period is soon put to his enjoyment, for he is captured by the king, and made to marry his daughter—fat and at least forty, but by no means fair. Objecting to the arrangement, the cook is thrown as fodder to a ferocious lion, but manages to escape by climbing the posts supporting the royal box, the king and his daughter having come to see the fun. This collapses, cookie escapes, and the dusky monarch and his fat daughter provide the lion with an ample meal. The film was greeted with hearty laughter. A one-act "Billikin," entitled "Heart Strategy," was also projected, and was favourably received.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"TWO LITTLE IMPS."

OTHERWISE BUNDLES OF MISCHIEF.

Production ..... Wm. Fox
Stars .....Jane and Katherine Lee
Type ..... Comedy
Length ..... Five Parts

At the Super Cinema, on Wednesday, Wm. Fox featured those roguish kiddies, Jane and Katherine Lee, in a heart-warming and human film. The two children, left for a short time in the care of their bachelor uncle Billy, rapidly dissipate his belief in their fond mother's description of them as her "two little angels." Among other escapades are the visit to the dining hall of the younger girl, clad in the scantiest of underwear, and the setting of the hotel in a turmoil by the arrival of a fire-escape to rescue the two mites from the top coping of the building, whither they have gone to "see the sights." But incidentally they provide their young uncle with an excuse to introduce himself to a charming girl, and are also the means of bringing together again a stern father and his erring son. The film thoroughly pleased the large audience present.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"THE GIFT GIRL."

ROMANTIC STORY OF A BRITISH GIRL WHO WAS BROUGHT UP IN A PERSIAN HAREM.

Production ..... Grainger
Stars..Louise Lovely and Rupert Julian
Type ..... Drama

This Butterfly photo-play, by H. R. Durant, was presented at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Wednesday. The heroine of the story is a girl who bears the name of Rokaia, having been found in the desert by the Vizier of Shiraz and his attendants and handed over to the care of his wives. The orphan grows up to be a charming young woman, and the adventures which befall her after making her escape from Persia, with the aid of the Vizier's secretary, are well calculated to grip the interest of an audience. Happily for the young lady from Persia, the son of a French marquis falls in love with her, and she consents to become his wife. The Persian scenes deserve special mention, and when the heroine flees to Paris we get some realistic pictures of student life in a French university. A fight in a boarding-house between Marcel's student friends and a number of Persians proved to be of the most exciting description, the whole business being very cleverly worked. Entitled to high praise were the Rokaia of Miss Louise Lovely, the Malee of Mr. Rupert Julian, and the Marcel of Mr. Emery Johnson.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"A BLISSFUL CALAMITY."

A LAUGHABLE LIGHT COMEDY.

This Grainger film, screened at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Wednesday, proved to be a very amusing little comedy. A good-looking young fellow, Westie by name, is no lover of the fair sex, but, on the contrary, avoids the ladies as if all of them were old and ugly. And so a friend of his—a married man—plans with some other pals to lay a trap for the youth who is "scared to death by a woman," and invites him to his country house as a guest at a "buck party." Westie soon discovers to his horror that the house is full of rollicking girls, and, only half-dressed, attempts to escape, but is caught and surrounded by the laughing damsels. How Westie schemes to get the better of those who have tricked him by arranging a sham marriage which turns out to be the real thing, and how he not unwillingly submits to the matrimonial yoke—the lady being a very charming one—is shown in amusing fashion. The part of Westie is brightly played by Mr. Fred Church, and he has excellent support.

"DOUBLE CROSSED."

WIFE SAVES HER HUSBAND'S HONOUR FROM AN ATTEMPTED BLACKMAILER.

Production ..... Famous Players
Star ..... Pauline Frederick
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Four Acts
Release ..... March 7, 1918
Distributors ..... J. D. Walker's

A large audience assembled at Walker's trade show, held at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on the 11th inst. The picture relates how Lawrence, who is out for clean government, is possessed of a document incriminating Dickman and his corrupt colleagues. Dickman's henchman, Foley, tries by blackmail to induce Stretton to purloin the document, but unsuccessfully. He is apparently more successful with Eleanor Stretton's wife; until, within an ace of disgrace and failure, she finally turns the tables on Foley, restores the document, and at the same time destroys Foley's power over her husband. Miss Pauline Frederick gives a very fine performance as Mrs. Stretton, and is well supported by other members of a fine cast. The country house scenes are artistic, and the graceful dances carried out in the garden scene are well rendered.

"THE COMING OUT OF MAGGIE."

FINE FEATHERS MAKE FINE BIRDS.

Production ..... Vitagraph
Stars..Nell Spencer and Carlton King
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... 1,780 Feet
Release ..... May 9, 1918
Distributors ..... Vitagraph

The eleventh of the famous O'Henry stories was the first item of a dual show held at the West End Cinema on Friday. Maggie is awkward and has poor taste in dress. The hero of her dreams, a certain Dempsey, insults her about her clumsy manner at the weekly "hop," but through her presence of mind she saves Dempsey from assassination. The next dance night Maggie astonishes everybody by being beautifully and tastefully dressed, and her happiness is completed when she learns that Dempsey loves her. Miss Nell Spencer is responsible for a very good impersonation in the character of Maggie, and gives some fine humorous touches to the performance. Mr. Carlton King ably supports her in the part of Dempsey. There is an exciting rough and tumble street fight in the second part, and the whole picture is well arranged.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"SUNLIGHT'S LAST STAND."

PLUCKY GIRL FINDS REAL LOVE IN THE MIDST OF BORDER PERILS.

Production .....Greater Vitagraph
Stars .....Mary Anderson and Alfred Whitman
Type .....Drama
Length .....4,310 Feet
Release .....May 9, 1918
Distributors .....Vitagraph Co.

The second picture shown relates to ranch life on the Mexican border. Sunlight is an outlaw who is seeking revenge on Bill Warned, who has organised a vigilance committee to round up his band. He captures Janet Warned's sister in order to hold her to ransom. Conway rescues her, and their love for one another till the final happy ending is told in a series of exciting and dramatic episodes. There are numerous thrills in this exciting picture, some fine feats of horsemanship are screened, and the splendid scenery of the Wild West is beautifully photographed. Miss Mary Anderson gives a vivid portraiture as Janet Warned, and Alfred Whitman is exceedingly daring and original in the part of Conway.

"WHEN BABY FORGOT."

LITTLE CHILD REUNITES SEPARATED PARENTS.

Production .....Pathé Gold Rooster
Star .....Baby Marie Osborne
Type .....Drama
Length .....Five Reels
Release .....May 20, 1917
Distributors .....Pathé

This was the principal item shown at the Pathé Private Theatre on Wednesday. The little family of three is very happy until the father, immersed in money-making, devotes all his time to business, and the mother, feeling herself neglected, seeks distraction at various society functions. The inevitable separation occurs, and the parents are brought together again when the child falls ill; the baby regains her health, and husband and wife are reunited. Baby Marie Osborne is the personification of mischievous, irresponsible and petulant childhood, and the picture will be a great draw wherever shown. The lighting and photography are up to this company's usual standard of excellence.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"THE BRIDE'S SILENCE."

ENTHRALLING MYSTERY OF A VOW MADE TO PRESERVE AN OLD FAMILY NAME.

Production..Bolton's Mutual Films, Ltd.
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Gail Kane
Length ..... Five Acts

A mystery story that keeps one mystified to the very end is worthy of its name, and "The Bride's Silence," screened at the Super Cinema on Monday, will certainly hold audiences spellbound. Sylvia Standish is a member of an old aristocratic family, proud of its unsullied name. At a family party her brother Chester is mysteriously murdered, and the body is discovered by the butler. The incriminating knife with which the deed was done is found by Sylvia, who hides it. The butler is arrested, and shortly afterwards Sylvia marries Paul Wagner, the prosecuting attorney, and the young couple live in her father's house. Eventually Sylvia's brain gives way under the stress of her secret. She discloses the knife, and the two unhappy men take her away to a mountain retreat, where they think she will be safe. Finally it is discovered that Myrtle Standish, a cousin, has done the deed to revenge a wrong, and Sylvia, who saw her do it, had kept silence to preserve the family honour.

Gail Kane makes a striking success of the part of Sylvia Standish.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

A full report of the War Office Topical Budget Luncheon, at which Mr. Hall Caine was the chief speaker, will be found on page 13.

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THE FATAL RING
WITH PEARL WHITE
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The "IDEAL" Film Renting Co., Ltd.
Will shortly Show to the Trade their Big Acquisition,
"WHOSO FINDETH A WIFE."
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FILMLAND GOSSIP.

A Second Centre for Soldiers.

Mr. Harry Spoor, Mr. Arthur Clozenberg, and Mr. Albert Clozenberg, proprietors of Film Booking Offices, Ltd., are to be commended for their generous offer to inaugurate a second London training centre for the training of disabled sailors and soldiers in cinematography. Captain Paul Kimberley, who has done such excellent work for the school in Wardour Street, has lately had his accommodation severely taxed, and it is in order to enable more men to have facilities for learning that these gentlemen have generously opened a second school at Soho-square, which is ready to receive students this week.

Philharmonic Hall.

As a special Christmas attraction at the Philharmonic Hall commencing this week, Mr. J. D. Tippett will screen a film version of "Scrooge," "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea" will remain in the bill, and with such attractive fare "House Full" is likely to be the rule rather than the exception during the forthcoming weeks. Incidentally, Mr. Tippett's propaganda film, "Where Are My Children?" is doing record business on its provincial tour.

Film Booking Offices.

Exhibitors will welcome the release this week of a film, entitled "Jerusalem," by Film Booking Offices, Ltd. It is a 1,000 feet topical of unusual interest, and particularly welcome at the moment, when all the world is interested in the capture of the Holy City by our British troops.

"Sailors of France."

The Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd., inform us that they will shortly be showing to the trade a film of unusual topical interest, entitled "Sailors of France: Ashore and Afloat." Taken under the privileged auspices of the French Navy League, these pictures give a vivid account of the remarkable enterprise and wonderful courage of the naval arms of our Ally, and in their 4,000 feet illustrate the preparations for war, the commencement of hostilities, the rush of the Marines to the land front, the French Navy's work in the Mediterranean, and some of the valuable results achieved by their heroic efforts.

"Passing Show" Comedies.

Pioneer Films seem to have roused no little interest by their announcements of the new "Passing Show" comedies, and exhibitors have not been slow to realise that these are subjects which offer unusual advertising possibilities. Mr. Tucker has been receiving scores of enquiries and congratulations, and it is certain that the happy idea of utilising a title and an advertisement personality already popular all over the country will bring its reward not only to the Pioneer, and the clever little paper which has lent its name to them, but to every other "showman" who puts their poster outside his theatre.

"THE GIFT GIRL." [*Granger.*

Bolton's Mutual.

Bolton's Mutual Films, Ltd., announce a trade show at the Super Cinema, Charing Cross-road, W., on Monday, Dec. 31, at 11 a.m. sharp, of "Melissa of the Hills," featuring Mary Miles Minter.

In this picture we hear that Mary Miles Minter surpasses herself, and she will be supported by character actors of a type that cannot fail to appeal to all classes.

Mr. Henry Hibbert, the proprietor of the Mutual Film Service, who is now controlling the firm's business from the new head offices, Temperance Hall, Bradford, has some interesting releases for the New Year. These include "Charity Castle," "Melissa of the Hills," "Her Country's Call," &c., featuring Mary Miles Minter; "Pride and the Man," featuring William Russell, and other splendid Mutual productions. The new offices of the Mutual Film Service are magnificently appointed, and it is questionable if there is a film house in London to compare with the Leeds and Manchester establishments of the Mutual Film Service. Mr. Mackie is in charge of the Leeds Branch at 11, Wellington-street, whilst the Manchester branch, at 105, Corporation-street, is under the capable management of Mr. Illingworth. Mr. T. Moore presides over the Belfast branch, at 35, High-street, where he controls the production of Bolton's Mutual Films, Ltd., and Bolton's International Films, Limited, for Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, North Wales, the Isle of Man, and Ireland.

War Fund Concert.

Mr. Ernest Plumpton, for many years associated with the late William Greet, of the Lyric Theatre, London, and more recently as general manager for Messrs. Grossmith and Laurillard, who is now the acting manager of the Provincial Cinematograph Co.'s Theatre at Birmingham, held his first sacred concert, since his advent in filmland recently on behalf of the Lady Mayoress War Fund. Such eminent artistes as Miss Mary Leighton, Mr. Joseph Cheotham, and Mr. Norman Williams contributed items. When the takings were added up Mr. Plumpton was enabled to hand over a cheque for £100 16s. 11d. to the fund.

Fox.

The Fox Film Co., Ltd., announce that it has been decided, for the convenience of exhibitors, to hold no trade show in London during Christmas week. The week after please take note that *two* features will be submitted for your judgment at the Super Cinema, Charing Cross Road, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, at 11 o'clock sharp. One of the subjects to be shown will have a very special appeal for all who see it. "Miss U.S.A." tells us a delightful story of love and adventure, as charming as even the Sunshine Maid, June Caprice, can make it; and beyond that it gives us a wonderful inside view of America, leaping to her feet to the battle call, and making instant and steady preparation to take her place by the side of the Allies.

Gaumont.

The Gaumont Film Hire Service and the Gaumont Co., Ltd., send hearty Christmas greetings to all members of the trade. They have already mapped out a very big 1918 programme, which is calculated not only to supersede all their previous efforts, but to supply to exhibitors just the things they want and are asking for.

Definite and interesting announcements embodying all the foregoing remarks will be made in next issue.

Hepworth.

The Hepworth Company are at present very busy producing "The Touch of the Child," from the stage playlet by Tom Gallon and Leon M. Lion. The leading male player will be Henry Edwards, the leading lady Alma Taylor. Stewart Rome will also take a very prominent part. The last three week-ends he has been down from the Midlands, where he makes munitions, to work on this picture. Cecil M. Hepworth is himself producing "The Touch of the Child," which, it is expected, will be a worthy successor to "The Cobweb." It is hoped that "The Touch of the Child" will be ready for a trade show early in February.

Ideal.

The Ideal Film Renting Co., Ltd., inform us that their film, "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," has now been booked to nearly 900 theatres; "Florence Nightingale," and "The Broken Melody" to nearly 800; "My Old Dutch" to nearly 1,450; and their Ellen Terry picture to nearly 800.

The firm's more recent productions are also meeting the popular taste. John Galsworthy's "Justice" having already been booked by some 450 theatres, "Diana of Dobson's" by some 410, while "The Gay Lord Quex," which is not released for another month or more, has been booked to 400 theatres, and "Dombey and Son," which is still over two months from release, to over 300.

It is gratifying to see that British films are retaining, and even increasing, their hold upon the popular taste.

Those who remember the exciting controversy which arose when Mr. Hall Caine's novel, "The Woman Thou Gavest Me," was published some four years ago, will be interested to hear that an answer to that book has been produced in the form of a film entitled "Whoso Findeth a Wife." The new picture, which is owned by the Ideal Film Renting Co., Ltd., is a very striking production, the principal part in it being played by the well-known actress, Jean Sothern.

The trade show will be held very shortly of this picture, which looks like creating a considerable stir in the country.

L.I.F.T.

London Independent have secured a new British production which promises to be of no little interest. The film has been produced by Mr. Bertram Phillips, and is entitled "Meg o' the Woods." The title-part is played by Miss Queenie Thomas, a charming young actress who has already several successes in picture-making to her credit. The trade show of this attractive subject will be announced shortly.

Pathé.

This week Pathé Frères are showing to the trade another delightful Gladys Hulette play, entitled "Miss Nobody," said to be one of the most charming productions ever witnessed on the screen. This play is on view at 2.30 in the Roof Garden Theatre, together with one or two other special subjects.

Exhibitors are advised to bear in mind the dates for viewing "The Fatal Ring," featuring Pearl White. This colossal production will be screened at Pathé's Wardour-street, on January 1 and 2, commencing on January 1 at 11.30 a.m., and on January 2 at 2.30 p.m. There is no need to dilate on the wonders of this serial; one need only say that Pearl White and her deeds of daring absolutely take one's breath away, and that every showman will have a strong antidote to summer weather who secures so sure a card. Warner Oland and Miss Ruby Hoffman and Henry Gsell are members of the all-star cast in "The Fatal Ring."

Phillips.

Mr. B. Moorwood Megson informs us that new arrangements are in contemplation by his firm, the Phillips Film Co., by which they will be more actively represented in West Lancashire in future. Phillip's business has grown so tremendously that both Liverpool and Manchester call for a regular "man on the spot." They will shortly have them with Megson exercising his usual skilled supervision of the whole county. Jan. 7 is the date of the next P.F.C. trade show at the Scala, when "The Mystery of the Marsh" will be screened.

Phillips's next Leeds trade show is fixed for Jan. 1, 1918, at the Picture House, Briggate, when "The Mystery of the Marsh" and another instalment of the "Human Interest" series, and "Cub" comedies, will shortly be shown.

Mr. St. Clair has secured the Queen's Hall, Newcastle, for Jan. 15 next, when he will be showing "The Mystery of the Marsh." Earlier subjects from this source are securing good bookings, and the "Human Interest" half-reelers have been very successful.

Triangle.

An amusing law suit is described in a letter received this week at the London office of Triangle from Mr. Winik, in New York. The plaintiff was J. Hartley Manners, husband of Laurette Taylor, and he tried to obtain an injunction restricting Triangle from using the title "Happiness," which title Mr. Manners used for a sketch he wrote and produced in 1914, intending later to make a three-act play of it. "Fortunately for the film industry," says Mr. Winik, "the court decided that Mr. Manners could not have exclusive right to the title." Triangle's picture play, with Enid Bennett, was released in London last week.

Triangle Plays announce "A Strange Transgressor" for next Friday's trade show. Louise Glaum is the star, and she is said to wear some of her weird and wondrous "vampire" gowns in her part of Lola Montrose. J. Barney Sherry, Dorcas Matthews, and Colin Chase are seen in Miss Glaum's support.

Mary Thurman and Robert Milliken are the stars in "The Late Lamented," a Triangle-Keystone to be shown at the same trade show.

International.

International Exclusives, Ltd., inform us that they are now busily producing, under the direction of Mr. Maurice Elvey, the first of their 1918 releases, "The Greatest Wish in the World," from Mr. E. Temple Thurston's novel. The cast, which is an unusually strong one, includes the following well-known players: Bransby Williams, Jean Alwyn, Ada King, Gwen. Herbert, Odette Goimbault, Edward Combermere, Douglas Munroe, Edward Arundel, and William Corri.

Camberwell.

At the Picture Empire, Camberwell-road, Mr. Mills is offering an attractive programme this week. To-morrow, Thursday, "Husband and Wife," 15th episode of "The Voice on the Wire," "Pots and Poems," "Christmas Carol," "The Children's House," and "The Life of a Wasp" are included in a comprehensive bill.

At the Golden Domes "The Village Blacksmith" is the star picture for to-morrow, and on Monday next "My Lady's Slipper" will be presented. The Elite Orchestra is an additional attraction at this theatre.

Catford.

On Thursday, "Snow-White" a fine Christmas pantomime, should attract large audiences to the Queen's Hall Cinema, Rushey Green, and on Monday next, "Fron-Frou" is included in an excellent programme.

Crouch End.

At the Hippodrome, Mr. J. Brunswick is presenting to-morrow "Little Miss Somebody," "Skidding Hearts," and "Judex." On Monday next, "Aladdin" and "The Scarlet Runner" will be screened.

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OF ALL

FILMS (EXCLUSIVES) ISSUED FROM June 1st to December 31, 1917.

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Name.....

Address.....

Herne Hill.

At the Cinema Grand, "In the Palace of the King," Capt. Bairnsfather's Cartoons, and "The Voice on the Wire," are being presented.

Peckham.

At the Queen's hall, High-street, "Maciste Alpine Soldier" is being screened.

Lewisham Electric Palace.

Mr. Albert G. Maxsted, of the Lewisham Electric Palace, High-street, Lewisham, S.E., has secured the services as musical director of Mr. Cecil Glover, late of the Grand Kinema, Edgware-road, Brixton Palladium, &c.; and the orchestral work at this theatre is proving an added attraction. Mr. Glover has played at the Royal Albert Hall, Queen's Hall, Crystal Palace, &c. Last week, at the Lewisham Electric Palace, Mr. Maxsted was showing Douglas Fairbanks in "American Aristocracy," and the last episode of "The Scarlet Runner." This week he is screening "The School for Husbands" and "Plain Jane."

Mr. Maxsted is working on munitions for a number of hours every day. This effort is quite voluntary on his part.

Manchester.

There is a big attraction this week at the Oxford-street Picture House, Manchester, where Victor Hugo's "Notre Dame" is appearing under the title of "The Darling of Paris."

The Market-street house has also a powerful attraction in a film version of "Ivan the Terrible," of which, by the way, the operatic rendering will be given at the New Queen's Theatre next week by the Sir Thomas Beecham Opera Company.

In a lighter dramatic vein the eventful story of "Sally Bishop" is filmed at the Deansgate house; while at the Grosvenor "Merely Mrs. Stubbs" is the prime attraction.

On Sunday evening a big performance will be given at the Oxford-street house towards the raising of funds for the erection of a cinema at Dunkirk for our Tommies and Army workers in France. "A Victory of Conscience" will be the principal picture, and the Beswick Prize Band is due to play selections.

Richmond.

Mr. Clive has secured "Snow-White" for the Royalty Kinema. On Monday, "The Sixteenth Wife" will be included in a strong programme.

Mr. Norris is presenting at the Talbot Kinema Theatre to-morrow "The King's Daughter," and on Monday next, "The Book Agent."

Shepherd's Bush.

At the Palladium this week, Mr. John H. Mills has an attractive bill of fare. To-morrow, "The Cost of Hatred" will be shown, and on Monday next, "Kennedy Square" will be included in a strong programme.

The Star Cinema, Uxbridge-road.—Mr. Hammerson, the proprietor, is screening this week "Resurrection." On Monday, "Fortunes of War" and "Secret of the Submarine" are being shown.

Starch Green.

Park Cinema, Goldhawk-road.—Mr. F. Hamblin, the manager, is screening to-morrow "Wasted Years." On Friday, a matinée performance will be given here to wounded soldiers, at which many well-known artistes will appear.

Truro Public Hall.

At the Truro Corporation the Chief Constable reported that the Secretary of the Public Rooms Company had given notice of his intention to apply for a music and dancing licence with respect to the Public Hall. The Chief Constable was instructed to oppose the granting of such licence as far as applies to the use of the hall for cinematograph exhibitions, on the ground that the Public Hall is not suitable for such exhibitions.

Bath.

At the Picturedrome Mr. Arthur Hales has secured for the early part of the week the Triangle drama, "The Bad Boy," also the fifteenth part of "The History of the Great War."

The Vaudeville is showing the super film, "Womanhood, the Glory of the Nation."

"Maciste" is at the Electric, and also the tenth episode of "Pearl of the Army."

Belfast.

At Royal-avenue Picture House the attractions are "The King's Daughter," "A Gamble for Love," "Jack and the Beanstalk," &c.

At Imperial "Snow White," &c., are screened. An added attraction is Edward Davies, tenor.

At the Gaiety the features are "The Perils of Divorce," "Pearl of the Army," "The Secret of the Submarine," &c.

The Clonard are showing "The Girl Philippa," "Teddy," "The Villain," "Pearl of the Army," &c.

Brighton.

"The Persecution of Bob Pretty," "In Another Girl's Shoes," and "Children of Eve" are Mr. S. T. W. Johnson's excellent selections at the Palladium; and from to-morrow "Ivan the Terrible."

"A Tale of Two Cities" proved a powerful attraction at the Academy on Monday, and from to-morrow will be seen "The Woman Who Was Nothing."

Mr. A. W. Deer's Monday programme at the Picturedrome included "Little Lady Eileen," "Chaplin in the Pawnshop," and "The Girl from 'Frisco," these giving place to-morrow to "Oliver Twist," &c.

"An American Patriot" and the serial "Judex" formed Mr. J. Cash's chief films at the Tivoli on Monday, and for the last three days of the week he will present "Romance of the Red Cross."

Good acting characterises "The Labour Leader" at the Duke of York's.

Darlington.

"The Manxman" is the star film for the week at the Alhambra.

The Empire has "A Tale of Two Cities" and "The Only Way."

The pictures at the Court and Arcade for the first half of the week include "A Munition Girl's Romance." "The Mutiny of the Alden Besse" will be screened on Thursday.

Derby.

"Treason" will delight the audiences at the Picture House this week.

The Alexandra's chief film is "The Fall of a Nation."

The Spot.—Mr. Charles Denley, the late acting manager of the Grand Theatre, and for over 20 years associated with the amusement world, has secured a lease of this cinema, and will re-open with an attractive selection on Christmas Eve.

"The Last Man" heads the bill at The Cosy.

The Normanton is showing "Molly Bawn," &c.

Leek.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—"The Lost Chord," Capt. Bairnsfather's Cartoons, "The Carpet from Bagdad," and other films.

"A Tortured Heart," "The Fanatic," &c., are screened at the Salisbury Palace.

Leicester.

Mr. H. B. Hill, manager of the Cinema de Luxe, submits the following fine films:—"The Romance of the Red Woods," "Treason," and the popular play "Freckles."

The Grand Electric should do good business with such first-class films as "Fatal Fingers," "Her Splendid Sin," and the "Judex" serial.

"Happiness," together with "The Gun Fighter," "A Domestic Hound," "Through Flames to Love," and the second episode of "Patria" can be seen at the Floral Hall.

"The Crisis" will be showing all the week at the Imperial Playhouse.

Mr. Jack Walter, at the King's Hall, presents "The Suspect," "Stronger Love," and "The Secret of the Submarine."

Nuneaton.

At the Scala Theatre "The Children Pay" and "Upholding the Law" are screened this week.

"The Mysterious Mrs. M.," "The Voice on the Wire," and "The Lost Chord" are at the Palace.

The Royal Electric Hall screens "The Price of Life," "A Rose Among the Briars," and "Pearl of the Army."

Reading.

At the Vandeville Electric Theatre the pictures include "The Valentine Girl" and "The Storm" in the early part of the week, and "Freckles" in the latter part.

Leeds.

Mr. Charles Bush, the well-known Yorkshire manager, late of the Queen's and Royal Theatres, Leeds, has made a great success with his new venture as manager of the City Cinema, Leeds. Under his guidance, this popular picture house is doing splendid business.

Sutton.

Mr. George Harmston's "star" film for the current half of the week at the Hippodrome is "Flirting with Fate."

Mr. H. Jays, of the Picture Theatre, is presenting "The Captain of the Grey Horse Troop." The programme for the latter half of the week will comprise "The Goose Girl" and No. 5 of the Boy Scouts serial, &c.

Mr. E. Savage, the manager of the Electric Theatre, submits "The Bondage of Fear," while variety is introduced by Dolly O'Dell, comedienne. For the concluding half of the week the programme will include the final episode of "The Scarlet Runner."

(*Continued on next page.*)

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FILMLAND GOSSIP

(Continued from preceding page.)

Watford.

The chief films showing at the Central Hall this week are "The Web of Desire," "Told at Twilight," "When Damon fell at Pythias," and "Villa of the Movies."

The Empire has for its principal attraction from to-morrow "Each Pearl a Tear."

"Suzanne" should prove a big draw at the Electric Coliseum, where it will be showing from to-morrow.

Abbott's Orchestral School.

The success of Abbott's Orchestral School is due to the result of training students for cinema and café appointments. M. Augustus Abbott, the principal, who has had twelve years' cinema exeperience, says it is not the musician who plays Beethoven, Chopin, &c., who always obtain appointments, but those who have a knowledge of the standard overtures, valses, &c., and know how to adapt them to pictures.

CINEMAS IN SHEFFIELD.

Sheffield Watch Committee has decided "that all applicants for licences under 'The Cinematograph Act, 1909,' be required to give an undertaking that no child under the age of fourteen years shall be allowed to be present at the second nightly exhibition or performance, or, in the case of a continuous performance, later than 9 p.m., unless accompanied by his or her parent or guardian."

Meanwhile, the committee has drawn up new rules for incorporation in all licences on and after Jan. 1. The chief of these are:—

No film shall be shown which is likely to be injurious to morality or to encourage or incite to crime, or to lead to disorder, or to be offensive to public feeling, or which contains any offensive representations of living persons. If the Chief Constable serve a notice on the licensee that he objects to the exhibition of any film on any of the grounds aforesaid, that film shall not be shown.

No young person under sixteen shall be admitted to any performance on any premises licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor unless accompanied by his or her parent or guardian, or some adult person in charge of such young person, and bona-fide believed by the person hereby licensed to have the sanction of such parent or guardian.

Every part of the premises to which the public are admitted shall be so lighted during the whole of the time it is open to the public as to make it possible to see clearly over the whole area

In the absence of the licensee from the licensed premises, some competent person, duly appointed by the licensee to act as manager, shall be in attendance on the premises during the time of every exhibition or the time during which any of the public are lawfully therein, and the licensee or the manager, in case one is appointed, shall not undertake during the time of any exhibition any other than managerial duties.

The British Fire Prevention Committee, alive to the fact that the season for Christmas entertainments all too frequently leads to additional fire hazards, has issued a fire warning, copies of which can be obtained gratuitously from the Committee, 8, Waterloo-place, S.W., upon written application, with stamped envelope enclosed.

Much regret is felt in Torquay at the death last week of Mr. Harold Bonarius, who was killed in action in France. Mr. Bonarius was the talented leader and solo violinist of the first Municipal Orchestra at Torquay, which under the bâton of Mr. Basil Cameron won such an enviable reputation for itself until the country's call for men necessitated its disbandment.

SHOULD CINEMA STARS EARN £20,000 A YEAR IN WAR-TIME?

So much attention has been given to the announcement that Miss Mary Miles Minter, the famous young cinema actress, is being paid a salary of £20,000 a year for appearing in "Charity Castle," "The Innocence of Lizette," "Melissa of the Hills," and other pictures that are as familiar as household words to cinema lovers, that a number of celebrities have been asked whether they consider it right that a girl of fifteen and a half should be paid such an enormous sum. Amongst the replies received is the following characteristic one from Mr. George Bernard Shaw, who writes:—

"I see nothing to complain of except that it won't last more than a few years. Still, it is a very fair salary for a young lady of fifteen. When I was fifteen I had only two pounds a month, but nobody made any fuss about it. If Miss Minter was getting two dollars a week as a shirt-waist hand, I suppose your correspondents would consider that quite all right. Yet she is putting up the standard for every one of them. I hope you will give her a rise at Christmas."

Mr. Horatio Bottomley writes:—

"I think the lady in question (like everyone else) is worth whatever she can get."

Mr. George Robey with modesty writes:—

"Asking my opinion as to whether any person, even as talented as Miss Mary Miles Minter, should receive such a large salary as £20,000 a year. As my own yearly income considerably exceeds this amount, and has done for many years past, also as I invest as much as possible in War Loan, and have done since the beginning of the war, I feel I am not exactly in a position to give an answer to this question."

Mr. George Lansbury, the well-known Labour leader, expresses himself as follows:—

"I do not think it any worse for Miss Mary Miles Minter to take a salary of £20,000 a year than I do to pay the Viceroy of Ireland £20,000 or the Lord Chancellor £10,000 with a retiring pension of £5,000 a year.

"Conditions being as they are, I expect this young lady earns her money rather than some of the people who are in receipt of incomes reaching and exceeding hers in amount. On the other hand, I am of opinion that no individual in our society should have at his or her disposal so much wealth. I believe that all labour should be equal. Consequently I should want the woman who does the washing, the cooking, and the scrubbing to be paid equally as well, and able to get as good a standard of comfort as the lady who is featuring in a cinema show."

COMING FILM TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Miss Nobody (Pathé), Pathé Roof Garden Theatre, 103-9, Wardour-street, 2.30 p.m., Dec. 19.

This is the Life (Fox), Super Cinema, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

The Man Trap (Phillips), Shaftesbury Pavilion, Dec. 19, at 11.30.

Tom Jones (Ideal), Dec. 19, the West End Cinema, at 11.30 a.m.

BELFAST.

The Guardian (Gaumont), Dec. 19, at 11.30, Own Theatre.

BIRMINGHAM.

The Deemster (Jury's), Picture House, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

Our Naval Air Power (Admiralty Official) (Jury's), Picture House, 11 a.m., Dec. 21.

Tom Jones (Ideal), "Ideal" Offices (57, John Bright-street), all day, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

BRISTOL.

The Last of the Carnabys (Pathé), The Palace, Jan. 22.

CARDIFF.

Features (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.15 p.m., every Tuesday.

Features (F.B.O.), 67, Charles-street, every Tuesday.

Features (J. D. Walker), Own Theatre, every Friday.

Features (Paragon Films), Own Theatre, every day.

Cheerful Givers and Hula Hula Land (Triangle), Dec. 19 and 20, Principality Buildings.

When Baby Forgot (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 13, Charles-street, Dec. 21.

The Deemster (Jury's), Olympia, 2.30 p.m., Dec. 21.

The Last of the Carnabys (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 13, Charles-street, Jan 1.

Tom Jones (Ideal), Park Hall, 11.30 a.m., Jan. 8.

DUBLIN.

Camille and Auld Robin Grey (Ideal), Dec. 21, the Carlton, 11 a.m.

GLASGOW.

The Fighting Trail (Jury's), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., Dec. 18 and 19.

The Guardian (Gaumont), Dec. 19, at 11 and 2.30, Own Theatre.

Kiddie (Argosy), Cranston's, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

Missing the Tide (Broadwest) New Savoy, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

The Blind Boy (Ruffels), Salon, 11.30 a.m., Dec. 20.

Our Naval Air Power (Admiralty Official) (Jury's), Picture House, 11 a.m., Dec. 21.

The Last of the Carnabys (Pathé), Cranston's Picture House, Renfield-street, 11 a.m., Dec. 21.

Tom Jones (Ideal), New Savoy, 11 a.m., Dec. 28.

"Little Duchess" (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30 p.m., Dec. 25; 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., Dec. 26.

The Deemster (Jury's), Picture House, 11 a.m., Dec. 26.

LEEDS.

The Blind Boy (Ruffell's), Picture House, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

Our Naval Air Power (Admiralty Official) (New Century), Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

Two Little Imps (Fox), Grand Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., Dec. 20.

The Deemster (New Century), Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., Dec. 21.

Tom Jones (Ideal), City Cinema, 11 a.m., Dec. 21.

LEICESTER.

Back of the Man, His Precious Life, and Innocent Sinners (Triangle), Dec. 19, 11 a.m., The Scala, Lime-street.

Hearts Adrift (Gaumont), Dec. 20, at 11 a.m., Scala Super Cinema, Lime-street.

Camille (Ideal), King's, 11 a.m., Dec. 21.

Tom Jones (Ideal), King's, 11 a.m., Jan. 2.

Auld Robin Gray (Ideal), King's, 11 a.m., Jan. 8.

LIVERPOOL.

Tom Jones (Ideal), "Ideal" Offices (10, Commutation-row), all day, Dec. 17 and 18.

Back of the Man—His Precious Life—Innocent Senners (Triangle), Scala, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

Hearts Adrift (Gaumont), Scala Super Cinema, Lime-st., 11 a.m., Dec. 20.

MANCHESTER.

Tom Jones (Ideal), Dec. 19, the Grosvenor, 11 a.m.

The Last of the Carnabys (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 15, Deansgate, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Dec. 19.

Our Naval Air Power (Admiralty Official) (Weisker), Picture House, 11 a.m., Dec. 20.

This is the Life (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 28, Deansgate Arcade, 11 and 2.30, Dec. 20 and 21.

Mystery of the Marsh (Phillips), Market-street P.H., Dec. 28.

NEWCASTLE.

Durand of the Bad Lands (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 20, Westgate-road, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

When Baby Forgot (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 13, Bigg Market, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

The Americano, Two Crooks, and The Girl and the Ring (Triangle), 25, Northumberland-street, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Dec. 19.

The Deemster (Jury's), Picture House 11 a.m., Dec. 20.

Tom Jones (Ideal), Picture House, 11 a.m., Dec. 21.

NOTTINGHAM.

Double Crossed (Walker), Scala, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

Tom Jones (Ideal), "Ideal" Offices (34, Derby-road), all day, Jan. 1 and 2.

SHEFFIELD.

Auld Robin Gray (Ideal), Union-street Picture Palace, 11 a.m., Dec. 19.

Golden Rule Kate, A Shanghaied Jonah, and the Bookworm Turns (Triangle), Dec. 19, 11 a.m., Clayton's Theatre, Norfolk-street.

Two Little Imps (Fox), Clayton's Bioscope, 11 a.m., Dec. 18 and 21.

The Deemster (New Century), Don Picture House, 6 p.m., Dec. 23.

Tom Jones (Ideal), Union-street Picture Palace, 11 a.m., Jan. 4.

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THE TRADE COUNCIL MEETING.

At the Trade Council meeting held on Thursday last the chairman informed the Council that the Cinema Commission was to be received by the Home Secretary and the President of the Board of Education on the following day, and that he had been requested to make a statemept as to the attitude of the trade in regard to the findings and recommendations contained in the report. He outlined the general trend of the remarks he proposed to make, which were approved by the Council.

The Council then gave a preliminary consideration to the recommendations of the Commission. In the majority of cases the recommendations are of interest chiefly to exhibitors, and it was decided to leave the detailed consideration of these to the Association directly interested. There was general agreement among members of the Council that the report had been prepared with admirable impartiality and thoroughness. It was full of useful information, and ought to be in the hands of every exhibitor.

One of the recommendations is to the effect that titles should be projected on to the screen for a sufficient length of time to enable children to read the text without any strain. Mr. Barker suggested a standard formula which provides that no title should be less than 4 feet in length, and that for the first three words the length shall be 4 feet, with a foot for each word thereafter.

THE LENGTH OF FILMS

Mr. Goodwin then presented the resolution passed by the London Branch of the Exhibitors' Association, and since approved of by provincial branches, relating to the undesirability of long films. Mr. Jury said that so far as he could judge, what exhibitors were complaining of was not so much length as unjustified length. In other words, exhibitors were complaining of what was in the film rather than of the length.

Mr. Goodwin said long films often had a well-known title, the cast was built round stage or screen stars, and had an undoubted advertising value. The exhibitor really had no alternative but to take these films, but on the main they were unduly drawn out, and his co-exhibitors were confident that if the "padding" was eliminated the essential action and atmosphere could in most cases be secured in about 5,000 feet. The general view among manufacturers and renters seemed to be that the exhibitors, while willing to pay a certain price for, say, a seven-reel subject, would not be willing to pay the same price for the same subject edited into five reels, though in a majority of cases the film might be improved thereby.

The Chairman pointed out that the exhibitors' objection to length was not based on questions of price, for in his theatres, where the local managers had nothing to do with the price or purchase of films, the same complaints were constantly met with. Mr. Barker instanced some of the difficulties from the manufacturers' side, and Mr. Hepworth said that for two years he had actively supported the policy of short films, and had pretty nearly ruined himself in the process. Mr. Montague was inclined to agree that 4,000 to 5,000 feet were desirable, but said that his own experience had not been encouraging, for he had been quite unable to sell three-reelers, no matter how excellent the quality. Mr. Davies hinted at the dangers of attempting to boycott the super-film. These films would undoubtedly continue to be made, and if exhibitors attempted to ban them, other arrangements would inevitably be made for their exhibition.

CHILDREN'S CINEMAS.

REGULATIONS INFRINGED AT LIVERPOOL.

At the Liverpool Police Court last week, before Messrs. R. G. Bradley and T. O. Ruddin, a summons was heard against Ernest M'Call, licensee of the Palladium Picture Theatre, West Derby-road, for allowing, on Nov. 30, a cinema exhibition for children to be shown without having sent notice in the manner provided by the rules under the Cinematograph Act. A fine of £5 was imposed.

Two other informations for an infringement of the rules on the same date were dismissed.

William Ashton Stone, Electra Palace Theatre, London-road, was fined 20s. in each of two informations, for having, on Nov. 30, shown a film not suitable for children, and for showing an exhibition to children in respect of which notice had not been sent in the manner provided by the rules.

Miss Florrie Bond is playing "Trixie," a special part in "Sleeping Beauty," at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, this Christmas.

The death took place on Sunday morning at Reading, after a brief illness, of Mrs. Mary Ann Studt, wife of the amusement caterer who is well known throughout the country, and who for some months has provided a variety of entertainments for many thousands of people at the corner of Friar-street and Lower Thorn-street.

On Monday next, the twenty-fourth annual entertainment in aid of the Liverpool and Bootle Police Orphanage is to be given at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, Mr. W. W. Kelly having kindly lent the building for the purpose. To-day at the Shakespeare, and on Friday at the Birkenhead Royal, performances will be given in aid of the Liverpool City Battalions' Comforts Fund and Prisoners of War Fund by the Liverpool Pals' Concert Party, directly from the Front, and calling themselves "The Optimists." So huge has been the demand for seats that an extra performance has now been arranged to take place to-morrow (Thursday) evening at the Crane Hall.

Captain Bruce Bairnsfather has returned to France, where he is now attached to the United States Army.

FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.

Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C

Suit average audience.....B | Suit any audience .....D

OPEN MARKET.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Feb. 4	Nellie's Nifty Necklace	L.-Ko.	Farce-Comedy	845	6½	B
Feb. 4	Uncle Sam at Work	Powers	Interest	887	7½	D
Feb. 4	Marble Heads	Joker	Comedy	967	6¾	B
Feb. 4	Neptune's Naughty Daughter	Century	Comedy	2000	6½	B
Feb. 4	A Watery Wooing	A.B.	Comedy	420	6½	B
Feb. 4	Ham Saves His Bacon	Ham	Comedy	835	6¾	B
Feb. 7	The Trans-Atlantic Screen Magazine	Transatlantic	Interest	576	7½	D
Feb. 7	A Romany Rose	Star Feature	Drama	1117	6¾	B
Feb. 7	Welcome Home	Nestor	Comedy	909	6¾	B
Feb. 7	The New Stoker	Helen Series	Railroad-Drama	800	6½	B
Feb. 7	Coat Tales	Funographs	Comedy	870	6½	B
Jan. 28	Slips and Slackers	Vitagraph	Comedy	923	6	B
Jan. 31	Just What Bobby Wanted	Vitagraph	Comedy	985	6½	B

EXCLUSIVES.

Jan. 21	In Auvergne	Pathé-Color	Interest	—	8	D
Jan. 28	Vichy	Pathé-Color	Interest	—	8	D
Feb. 7	Scientific Tit-Bits	Kineto	Interest	405	7	D
Feb. 14	Interesting Incidents	Kineto	Interest	490	7	D
Feb. 18	Hula Hula Land!	Keystone	Comedy	2000	8¾	B
March 21	Heart's Strategy	W'st'rnImp'rt	Billikin-Comedy	1000	8½	B
April 15	The Two Imps	Fox	Comedy-Drama	—	9	D
April 22	Cheerful Givers	Triangle	Drama	5000	8¾	D
May 9	Sunlight's Last Ride	Vitagraph	Drama	5000	9	D
May 9	The Coming out of Maggie	Vitagraph	Comedy	2000	8½	B
May 13	Skinner's Baby	Essanay	Comedy-Drama	5000	10	D
May 13	Jerusalem	Essanay	Interest	—	8	D
May 20	When Baby Forgot	Pathé	Comedy-Drama		8¾	D
Not known	The Jackals of a Great City	Butcher's Transatlantic	Drama	2000	7½	B
Not known	The Midnight Mystery	Bolton's Imp	Drama	2000	8	B
Not known	The Moccasin Shoe	Transatlantic	Drama	2000	7½	B
Not known	The Bride's Silence	Bolton's	Drama	4000	9	D
Not known	Massilla of the Hills	Bolton's	Drama	4000	8¾	B
Not known	When the Menagerie Came to Town	Essanay	Comedy	2000	8½	D
Not known	The Gift Girl	Granger-Butterfly	Drama	5000	8	B
Not known	Luke's Bathroom Bungle	Pathé	Comedy	2000	8½	D
Not known	Topical War Budget	PictorialNews	Interest	700	8½	D
Not known	Casey's Raid	Butcher's-Bison	Comedy-Drama	2000	8	B
Not known	Five Little Widows	Butcher's-Nestor	Comedy	2000	8	B
March 28	Hashmuro Togo	Walker-Lasky	Comedy Drama	5000	8¾	A
Not known	Santos	Walkers	Interest	—	8¾	B
Jan. 14	With the Forces in Mesopotamia	Jury's Official War Pictures	Interest	2000	8¾	D
Jan. 17	Our Naval Air Power	Ditto	Interest	4000	9	C

VARIETY CARDS.

ALBERT WHELAN
This Week, HULL. Next, RESTING.

ARTHUR WOODVILLE
This Week, PALACE, HALIFAX.

HETTIE HARTLEY
In Character Comedy Songs.
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No Vacancies until October, 1918.

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The Man who has made the Piano-Accordion popular in England.
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HUGH E. WRIGHT
"STARKEY" PETER PAN.
NEW THEATRE, W.C.

RENE RALPH
Rehearsing, HIPPODROME, LEWISHAM.
Principal Boy, Second Season with Mr. Chas. Gulliver.
Producing MONDAY NIGHT, DEC. 24.

George F. FORD & "'Erb"
A New and Novel Ventriloquial Act. A few immediate vacancies.
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Dec. 17, Rehearsals. Dec. 26, Exclusively engaged by Mr. Mark Sheridan for 'Gay Paree Travesty."
Booked b PEEL'S AGENCY.

THE B.E.S.S. BATH BRANCH.

Mr. H. Brice Mundy, representative of "The Era," presided at a meeting of the newly-formed Bath Branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, held on Friday afternoon at the Theatre Royal. Mr. Charles Boodle was elected treasurer on the motion of Mr. J. Witcombe (secretary). The following committee was appointed:—Miss Peach, Miss Plowman, Mrs. Preston King, Miss Gandy, Miss Cornwall and Mrs. Gedge. It was decided to hold meetings once a fortnight, in the afternoons and evenings alternately. Miss Peach offered accommodation for the evening meetings. The first meeting was fixed for Monday afternoon, Jan. 21, and the evening meeting on the following Friday.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. R. Flemming.—*All the four recitations are published by French's, 26, Southampton-street, Strand—"Lasca" at 1s. 8d., "Fra Giacomo" at 2s., "Kissing Cup's Race" at 1s., and "The Green Eye of the Yellow God" at 1s. 8d.*

Lawrence Mac.—George Leybourne.

BOOKS FOR REVIEW.

"Chatterbox." Price 3s. 6d. Published by Wells, Gardner, Darton and Co., Ltd.

"The Prize." Price 1s. 6d. Published by Wells, Gardner, Darton and Co., Ltd.

The Christmas "Windsor Magazine." Price 1s. nett. Published by Ward, Lock and Co., Ltd.

AMUSEMENTS IN DURBAN.

DURBAN, Oct. 27.—Theatre Royal, Durban.—P., Mr. A. C. Madore; L., Mr. Leonard Rayne.—Leonard Rayne presents here "Milestones," with Miss Freda Godfrey, supported by a powerful company.

Criterion Theatre.—P., Criterion Theatre, Ltd.—The programme here includes Mons. Vallier, from the Opera House, Paris; Tricado, sleight-of-hand entertainer; the Gerrards, singers and dancers; and pictures.

Two of the most popular items connected with a very successful matinée at the Halifax Theatre Royal on behalf of the "Halifax Courier" parcels scheme were the contributions by Miss Nellie Ganthony, society entertainer, and Miss Sybil Holroyd and K.M.G. in their playlet "The Fan."

The popularity which the manager of the Grand Theatre, Croydon (Mr. Cyril Royce), has attained during the three months he has been in charge was amply testified to on Saturday evening, when, at the conclusion of the performance, he was presented, on behalf of the staff, with a silver cake basket as a token of the esteem and respect in which he was held. In acknowledging the gift, Mr. Royce alluded to the loyal way in which all had worked to make the Grand Theatre a successful playhouse.

VARIETY CARDS.

These cards are inserted at 36/- for thirteen issues (small space) of "The Era."

IMPORTANT TO ARTISTES.

Additions and Corrections to these Cards must reach us not later than Tuesday, 1 p.m.

THE MUSICAL
ELLIOTT SAVONAS
In "THE PALACE OF ORPHEUS."
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Real Sisters. Introducing Pianos, Mandolines, Singing, Violin & Acting.
Own Beautiful Setting carried. Different to all other Musical Acts.
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Bronze Medallist, I.L.A.M., Elocution. The Miniature Pavlova.
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The Original Jolly Dutch Girl. "Cute and sassy."
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OPTION SERVED BY OSWALD STOLL, Esq.
THIS WEEK:
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Booked into 1922.
SANDY POWELL
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NEXT WEEK:
PANTO, ROTUNDA, LIVERPOOL.
Sole Agent:
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COMEDIANNE & DANCER.
This Week, PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.

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With the New Style.
Panto. at LEWISHAM HIPPO.
Sole Agents, F. and H. REEVES.

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COMEDIAN WITH SOME MUSIC.
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"'AT BOGEY VILLA' is as perplexing as ever. There is no need to speculate how the changes of costume are worked. It is sufficient to remark that he has no competitors in his line."—BIRMINGHAM DISPATCH, July 10.
This, COLISEUM. Next, PALACE, SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.

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THE DAME OF DAMES.
Pantomime Dame at ALHAMBRA, GLASGOW.

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PRINCIPAL BOY.
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HOPE CHARTERIS
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A Unique Combination of Comedy and Vocalism.
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For other Variety Cards see page 20.

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"THE WISE JESTER."—*Vide Manchester Guardian, October 9, 1917.*

"GAY PAREE

Or, A ROYAL DISCOURSE."

(With apologies to W. W. Kelly, Esq.)

(Written and Composed by FRED SHAW).

MARK SHERIDAN as Napoleon

Thanks to W. W. Kelly, Esq., for permission to travesty Napoleon's speech from the "Royal Divorce."

Have purchased an Original Napoleon Semi-stage Coach for Parade, formerly the property of the late Lord George Sanger.

BOOKINGS.

T.R., DUBLIN; HIPPODROME, BELFAST; TIVOLI, NEW BRIGHTON; GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL; COURT THEATRE, WARRINGTON; THEATRE ROYAL, ST. HELENS; THEATRE ROYAL, BURY; THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON; HIPPODROME, DERBY; HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER; ARDWICK, MANCHESTER, etc., etc., etc.

FIRST VACANT DATE JAN. 14 (?) To precede Belfast and Dublin. March 4 on, with exceptions. Dates rapidly booking.

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PROVINCIAL NEWS.

In order to effect a saving of space the following abbreviations are used in these columns:—P.: Proprietor. M.: Manager. G. M.: General Manager. C.: Chairman. R. M.: Resident Manager. A. M.: Acting Manager. Asst. M.: Assistant Manager. L.: Lessee. M. D.: Managing Director. Mus. D.: Musical Director. S.: Secretary.

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., The Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson. — The Robert Arthur pantomime, "Old King Cole," opened here on Saturday. Cast includes: Messrs. Fred Colley, Ivan Berlyn, Johnny Cullen, L. Wakeman, Arthur Carthy, and Wee Alfy, Misses Blanche Pearl, Mabel Scott, Dorothy Cullen, Dorothy Medlow, Anna Shials, Jane Forester; full chorus and ballet.

TIVOLI.—P., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The revue "Peaches," including Messrs. Dolph Wheeler, Tom Hills, H. Hammond, J. Stephens, H. Rennoir, Misses Vi Davis, Madge Haines, Muriel Kelly, and full chorus. Other turns: Doris Dalman, violinist; Norando, trick cyclist; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. George Neill.—The pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor." Cast includes: Doddy Hurl, Gay Douglas, Jack Allison, Maudie Forde, Gladys Witton, Madeline Dormer, Davie Walker, Cliffe and Kempton, Macdonald and Payne, the Eight Granville Girls, the Eight Kilty Lassies.

Boots, The Chemists, 141, Union-street.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; D. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. Jno. Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. H. O'Callaghan.—The week's bill here includes Percy Honri, in concertina selections, &c.; Frank L. Gregory and Co., hoop rollers and jugglers; the Sutcliffe Family, Scotch singers; Sisters Carlton, dainty duettists and dancers; Sara Rosebury, popular Lancashire comedienne; Dorothy Quire's company in vocal scena, "The Silver Wedding"; Ted Waite, comedian; and the popular comedian, Wal Langtry.

PICTURE PAVILION. — P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead & Son; D. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. A. Downes; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Morris.—Jennion's Manikins are interesting audiences as the "variety" portion of the programme; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 140, Old-square.

BATH.

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce.—The up-to-date novelty, "The Kirchner Girl," is the top liner this week. May Cady, comedienne and dancer; The Maynards, comedy duo; Tambo and Tambo, in their dazzling manipulation of tambourines; Ray Hartley, dancer; Great and Good, comedy acrobats, make up a capital programme.

Boots, The Chemists, 21, 22, Union-st.; 56, Southgate-st.

BELFAST.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmott; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The top of the bill here is occupied by the Elliott Savonas, who appear in their spectacle, "The Palace of Orpheus." The Gothams are paying a return visit with their smart comedy act; and Mr. Horace Wheatley, the genial Irishman, is always a big favourite here; Leo Dryden presents "Smoke Clouds," with special scenery; and also billed are the 6 Original Dandy Mascots; the Keetons, eccentrics; the Myako Troupe of Conjurers; and Jay Williams, comedian.

EMPIRE.—L., Mr. Barney Armstrong; G. M., Mr. Vincent Potter.—The Ohio Minstels, a local troupe, occupy the boards here this week.

NEW ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. W. Gibson Bradley.—The vaudeville element here is sustained by the Kinahans, vocalists and dancers; and Whit Gray, popular comedian and dancer; pictures complete.

GAIETY.—G. M., Mr. Ernest E. Forbes.—Appearing here are Jack Poulter, laughing comedian; and Miss Mary Thompson, ballad vocalist.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Hal Lloyd.—Mrs. Evelyn A'Dell's company in the domestic drama, "Because Love Made You Mine," provide very acceptable entertainment.

ARGYLE THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. John Keating.—Hiawatha and his squaw, Minnehaha, accompanied by their highly trained animal show, are an interesting feature; Tom E. Hughes, the philosophical dude, is on a welcome return visit; and the Kuba Quartette of Ladies, in a refined instrumental and vocal act, are a decided acquisition; the Phil Ascot Four, novelty dancers; Allen McKelvin, comedian; George Murphy, in his juggling act; Vi Tonica and Brown's Royal Bioscope, complete an excellent company.

HIPPODROME.—Sole L. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. Chas. Eastwood.—Moss' Empires, Ltd., present Albert De Courville's revue, "Smile." Billy Leonard and Tommy Mostoe head a capital array of really competent artistes.

Boots, The Chemists, 239-241, Grange-rd.

BRIDLINGTON.

SPA OPERA HOUSE.—M. for the Corporation, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Miss Amey Abercrombie's concert party, "Just Us," are appearing here nightly in their up-to-date programme of songs, dances and burlesques.

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell.—"Romance," presented by Messrs. Murray King and Charles Clark's company, is paying another visit here, and the splendid acting of Violet Farebrother as Cavallini, Frank Freeman as Thos. Armstrong, and Frank Lacy as Van Tuyl, is as enjoyable as ever.

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop.—The Blackpool children's pantomime of "The Patchwork Princess" will be produced this (Wednesday) afternoon, and performed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. This annual affair assists the local charities very materially.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller. — Miss Florrie Forde produced her pantomime of "Babes in the Wood" on Monday evening with every prospect of a brilliant success. Miss Forde is the Robin Hood, Reg. Bolton the Simple Simon, Lily Leyton the Maid Marion, Babs and Jeanette the Babes, Billy Doust the Nurse, and the Burnells and Leslie Hill the Robbers, &c.

Boots, The Chemists, 12-18, Market-street, Church-street, and Station-road.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The new three-act farce, entitled "The Last Straw," which was presented on Monday, under the direction of Mr. Bernard Hishin, with a strong company, including Miss Mary Brough, proved a genuine laughter-maker, and apparently an assured success.

PALACE PIER.—M., Mr. J. W. Cordiner.—Closed until Saturday next, to reopen with "The Girl from Ciro's," as the attraction for the Christmas holidays, presented by Messrs. Lewis Waller and Nevill Graham's strong company.

WEST PIER. — S., Mr. A. W. Scholey.—"Brer Rabbit and Mr. Fox," a light opera, by Mabel Dearmer and Martin Shaw, will be the Christmas attraction here from Saturday next.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. H. Boardman.—Mr. Seymour Hicks and full company opened here on Monday, in "Cash on Delivery," to a crowded and enthusiastic audience, which augurs well for a highly successful week's business.

Boots, The Chemists, 64, Church-road, Hove; 204, Church-road, Hove; 88, Preston-road; 17 and 18, James's-street; 19, London-road; 158-162, Western-road.

BRISTOL.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. Fortescue Harrison; Asst. M., Mr. Edward Fryer; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—This week we have the popular entertainers, Beatie and Babs. Others in the programme are Roxy La Rocca, the wizard of the harp; Chester Kingston, the Chinese puzzle; Talbot O'Farrell; the Two Nondescripts; Herbert La Martini; and Marcelle Caron. Events of the Day, in pictures, conclude.

EMPIRE.—L. & M., Mr. Sid Macaire; Mus. D., Mr. Bert Hunter.—Zona Vevey and Max Erard, in their pleasing musical entertainment, are here. Other attractions are Charles Ubrick, barrel king; and Franka Wonder; Charles Johnson, the Black Diamond; Claydon and O'Foyle, in humorosities; Dorma Morgan, comedienne; and Evelyn Brewster and company in crook sketch, "The Real Lady Raffles." The Topical Gazette concludes.

Boots, The Chemists, 13, Queen's-rd.; 9, 10, Wine-st.

THE

PANTOMIME DOUBLE NUMBER

OF

"THE ERA"

WILL BE PUBLISHED THE FIRST WEEK IN JANUARY, 1918.

BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW.

A special Order Form showing remaining spaces "To Let" will be forwarded on application to the Advertisement Manager, THE ERA, 35, Wellington Street, London, W.C.2. Copy must reach this office not later than Thursday, December 27.

DUNDEE.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—L., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; M. D. & Licensee, Mr. W. Firth; M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. Dir., Mr. Wm. Hartley.—Heading the bill here is the well-known organist, G. T. Pattmann, assisted by Dorothie Squire. Prominent on the bill also is Veronica Brady, a big Dundee favourite; Jack Cunard and Sister, who give a fine dancing display; Colbert, a clever club juggler; Dick Ward and Partner, in comedy cycling novelty; Gordon Seal, an entertaining comedy magician; and the Kingscope complete a popular programme.

PALACE.—Licensee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; M., Mr. A. Veveridge; Mus. Dir., Mr. J. Murphy.—Pete and Minnie Lee top the bill here. Les Novan presents a striking aerial gymnastic act; the Menzies appear in a speciality dancing act; and some excellent pictures complete the bill.

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. Arthur Henderson.—Royal Kondo, Japanese equilibrist; Flo Burnett, a popular vocalist; and pictures fill the bill here.

PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Arthur Binnall.—The Milano Trio, in their musical and dancing speciality, sustain the variety section of the programme here. Pictures complete.

OXFORD. P., Mr. Jack Noble.—Reynolds and Hading, in a versatile act, and pictures constitute the programme here.

DARLINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. H. L. Bull.—Mr. W. V. Garrod presents "A Pitman's Daughter." The cast includes William Calvert as John Forrester, the pit-man.

HIPPODROME.—L., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. H. L. Bull.—"Bubble and Squeak," a musical farce, presented by George Carney, who undertakes one of the principal parts. In addition the bill includes Relseka and Thyll, in a musical speciality.

Boots, The Chemists, 28, Northgate; 11, Blackwell Gate.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. E. Prance; A. M., Mr. W. Harper.—Fred Barnes, in his latest conception of light comedy, is this week's star number; the popular artistes, Marie Ash and Fred Allandale, are another powerful draw in a musical comedy interlude, "A Busy Day"; Margaret Kay, contralto, does justice to well-known ballads; the Novacels have some entertaining shadowgraphy; and Fred Hunt, the boisterous little comedian, is a hard worker. Other turns are Ian Maclean, Scotch comedian; and Jean and Josie, entertainers.

DEWSBURY.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Miss Florence Thurston presents the revue, "Sunshine." The Claymore Trio, dancing jugglers; Lively Lily Burnand, comedienne, also appear.

Boots, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND.—L., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North.—Mr. Charles Harrington presents "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

PALACE.—P., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North.—Miss Frances Letty presents the revue, "Bobo"; Maisie Sterling and Ella Richmond, duettists and soloists; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 71, Frenchgate.

DUBLIN.

THEATRE ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. J. H. Hamilton.—An all-round excellent bill is headed by Miss Florence Wray and company in a new comedy episode, with music, entitled "Her Own Way." Other items include the three Osrams, Australian dancers; the Dublin Repertory company in "The Key of the Situation," presented by Evelyn Ashley; Nelson Jackson, the popular entertainer; Harry Lamore, in a clever wire act; Helen Charles, entertainer and raconteur; John J. Dingnan, vocalist; and Annie Clohisey, Irish dancer.

TIVOLI.—M., Mr. C. M. Jones.—Miss Ray Wallace, the popular entertainer, tops the bill here. In addition, we have the Gaumond Bros., clever Danish acrobats; Wal and Rosa, comedy duo; Helen Moore and Mona Murray, in a vocal and instrumental act; Matthew Tobin, blind entertainer; May Allen, vocalist; Rosie Jaxon; and the Melfords.

EDINBURGH.

LYCEUM.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; G. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—M. Brieux's play, "Damaged Goods," is here this week. The play is admirably cast.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. J. Nelson; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—An excellent programme is headed by Miss Blanche Tomlin, who is assisted by Mr. Ronald Wakley at the piano. Schreck and Percival provide a series of amusing animated absurdities; the Scotch sketch, "Barker's Dog," affords opportunity to Mrs. Graeme Goring and company for some entertaining comedy; Edward Crosslands presents the Four Melody Makers, clever alike as comedians and musicians; José De Moraes, Portuguese tenor vocalist, sings most effectively; Ermey and Rey make good in a lively dancing interlude; and Jen Latona charms by her brilliant pianoforte playing.

LEICESTER.

PALACE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Trueman Towers; Asst. A. M., Mr. Thomas J. Phillips.—An excellent bill here consists of the Ritchie Troupe of Cyclists; Elven Hedges, in new rag-time sensations; Takio and his £1,000 film, introducing "The Living Jungle"; Alice Craven, Lancashire comedienne; Sharp's Tromboneers, in a smart musical act; Eric Godley, baritone; Loupe and Ladies, in a comedy and barrel jumping turn; and Haley's Juveniles, in their pretty vocal scena, "The Stinger Stung," with Gale Henry as the lead, is also screened.

PAVILION.—P., Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—A successful first visit is being paid here of the Kamakura Family of Japanese entertainers; the Harrow Brothers are successful genteel comedy gymnasts. Other excellent turns are contributed by Cliff and Vanstan, the musical girl and slavey; Lane and Hill, comedy entertainers; Alice Gill, contralto and Swiss yodeller; and Miss Doff Dee, American soubrette. Pictures complete.

Boots, The Chemists, 9, Belvoir-st.; 301, Belgrave Gate.

LUTON.

GRAND.—P., Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; B. M., Mr. Walter O'Sullivan.—Mr. Herbert Shelley and company in "The King's Vale Mystery."

Boots, The Chemists, 27, George-street.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND.—L. and P., Mr. C. J. Imeson; Asst. M., Miss M. Morton; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Chidzey. — Mr. James B. Fagan's company, in "Damaged Goods," is here.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and P., Mr. C. J. Imeson; A. M., Mr. George Imeson.—"King of Gipsies," a romantic drama, is presented here this week by Miss Emma Litchfield's company.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. Thos. Thompson; A. M., Mr. W. S. Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. H. J. Waldron.—The principal attraction is the London film production of "The Manxman."

EMPIRE. — P., The Empire Palace of Varieties (Middlesbrough), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Bastiman; A. M., Mr. Gerald Spencer; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Wilson.—A first-rate programme here includes Raceford, American, with his electrical comedy novelty; S. Wallett, vocalist; J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington, in a comedy sketch; Joan Tate, Australian comedienne; Ding Sen Brothers, Chinese acrobats; and the Gorkos Inglis Trio, in a musical ensemble.

Boots, The Chemists, 17, Corporation-road.

Jack Smiles has just purchased a new song, entitled "You Can Always Have a Little Bit More," written and composed by Charles Collins.

EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

The London County Council held a meeting at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, on Friday for the purpose of hearing opposed applications for the renewal of licences to employment agencies. Mr. H. Mills, chairman of the committee, presided.

SHERICK'S AGENCY.

The Variety Artistes' Federation opposed the application of Bernard Sherik (B. Sherek's Agency), Lisle-street, W.C. Mr. Frampton, barrister, appeared for the applicant.

Mr. Doughty, who appeared on behalf of the V.A.F., called Mr. Hugh Hughes, who said that his real name was Smith, but in 1914 he was performing under the name of Franco. He was a single turn, and in the week beginning Jan. 18, 1914, he appeared at the Victoria Palace, and Mr. Sherik, who was acting as his agent, came to see him there. He told Sherik he was prepared to accept £8 a week provided he could not get his usual salary, and at Sherik's office the next day he signed the contract, the salary being left blank. At the end of the week he was paid £10. Sherik saw him, and said that he had been put to considerable trouble, and in addition to his commission of 10 per cent. claimed the £2 which was the difference between the £8 he agreed to accept as salary, and the £10 actually paid him. He refused to give Sherik the £2, but ultimately handed him 16s.

Mr. Fred Russell, chairman of the V.A.F., was called, and stated that on Nov. 26 last he wrote the letter produced, asking Mr. Sherik for an explanation with reference to the allegation made by Mr. Hughes. Mr. Sherik wrote in reply stating that £10 was paid to Hughes in error, and had been refunded to Moss' Empires. A number of letters had been received from time to time with reference to Sheriki there existing a strong feeling against him on account of his alleged German birth.

In cross-examination, Mr. Russell said he was aware that Sherik had produced papers showing that he was a naturalised British subject, and he believed it was true that Sherik had a son who held a commission in the British Army.

Mr. Sherik was then called, and said that Mr. Pollock, booking manager of the Hippodrome, called on him and told him that Hughes had been paid £2 more than he was entitled to, and it must be refunded. He handed Mr. Pollock the £2, and afterwards informed Hughes, who, however, had never repaid him any of this amount. It was not true that Hughes gave him 16s.

The chairman said the committee had decided to grant the application.

A FURTHER ADJOURNMENT.

The committee then proceeded with the hearing of the adjourned case of an agent, a report of whose application appeared in last week's "Era." Mr. Doughty appeared on behalf of the V.A.F., Mr. Zeitlyn for the applicant. A lady variety artiste who gave evidence on Friday alleged that she had had a grievance against the applicant. Her complaint was that she had not received money to pay her railway fares to towns where she had engagements, and was compelled to borrow from friends.

After further evidence had been given the chairman intimated that the application would be adjourned until the next meeting of the committee, when the allegations made by the lady artiste would also be investigated.

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ROBERT D. WHYTE,
Town Clerk.
Rothesay, Dec. 12, 1917.

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1917.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for "Zig-Zag."

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Vivian Foster, De Busse, Kamakura Family, Duncan & Godfrey, Spalding & Vanguard, Herbert Cave.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Margaret Golde Quartette, E. C. Wyndham, Barton & Ashley, Ida Barr, Cornella & Eddie, Garadini.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.
Picture entertainments.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Manny and Roberts, Jerry and Co., Lewis Douglas, Arthur Woodville, Emeric and Kinsile.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Marie Ambrose, The Real McKays, The Brecks, Fred Keeton, Four Clovelly Girls.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.
Picture entertainments.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Julian Yedey, Evelyn Walters.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Donald and Carson, Dorra de Noroda, The Six Q's, Gus Harris, Gomez Trio, Spossell Bros. and Mack.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Bert Williams, 3 Morrills, Harry Bedford, Marie Kay, Sam Kelly and Partner, The Five Wartons.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Waters and Morris, Arthur Cooke, Marie Louisa and "Hit," Kelson Trio, Lily Hayes.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Johnson Clark, Melody Makers, Brazilian Trio, Les Trombetta.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Mdlle. Sampa, Dan Doyle, Ivy Stephens.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal for Pantomime.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.15 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Archie Goodall, Ena Dayne, Tom E. Hughes, Wells and Eclair Twins.

NEW EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE.
Picture entertainments.

KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Damaged Goods."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"The Better 'Ole."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"The Tale of Two Cities."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, GATESHEAD.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Flying Colours."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

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GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
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Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fireproofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (a) West End, (b) Suburban, (c) Large, and (d) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Silence a polite negative.

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinées are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields,** at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (a) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (b) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.
(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.
(3) **Press Matter and Photos.** Star Artistes, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager,** and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

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Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR DECEMBER 24, 1917.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Marguerite Scialtiel & Co., in "Maid of France," Grock, Ching Wu, Coram, Spain and Jackson, Dalmere's Circus, Five Olracs, Emilie Hayes, Sergeant Brennan, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)
Pictures and Varieties.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"The Sugar Baby."

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Hall and Turn, Tom Clare, Fyne and Hurley, Flora Cromer, Susie Marney, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Butters and Boob, Winifred Ward, Ritchie Troupe, Cruikshank, Laura Novea, Cissie Lupino, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Bartle Quartette, George D'Albert, Evelyn and Clayton, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
The Edivictas, Phil Ray, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Ida Loug, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Alberto, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Fred Milner, Ethel Fenton, Frank Whitman, The Jees, Meredith and Adnil, Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Lola Patey, Wieland, The McNaughtons, Walker's Juveniles, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Anna Hana, J. J. Wild & Co., Harry Taylor, Romani, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Schreck and Percival, Florence Wray and Co., Haines' English Ballet, Bioscope. (Matinees every Day except Xmas Day).

PICTUREHOUSE, CHATHAM

FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.

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"Round the Map" Revue. Cast includes Violet Loraine, Nelson Keys and Alfred Lester. (Matinees every Day except Xmas Day of "Bluebell in Fairyland.")

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM HIPPODROME.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. London Coliseum, London Opera House, and Manchester Hippodrome require 20 parts, including 3 first violins, extra 'cello and bass, and extra part for harp if not scored for.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE
LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS

PROVIDING CONTINUOUS ENGAGEMENTS FOR ARTISTES AT THE MOST IMPORTANT VARIETY THEATRES IN THE LONDON AREA.

General Administrative Offices:
25, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, Dec. 24, 1917

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30.
E. C. Rolls presents "Any Old Thing."

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran presents "The Better 'Ole."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Marie Lloyd. Royal Scarlet Entertainers. Ackroyd and Lorenzi. Ko Ten Ichi Troupe. Mayne Steppers. Henry Bedford & Co. in "An Empty Sleeve." Claude Lester. Frank H. Fox. Edie Gorf. Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
Terence Byron & Co. in "Simple Simon." Foot-Gers. Wilson & Ernie. The Biff Girls. Kathleen O'Hanlon & Zambuni. Chris Van Vern. Carson & Bryan. Norman Field. Nan Foster. Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Joe Elvin and Co. in "Bogies." The Motramos. Victor Kelly. Edgar Curtis. Linden and Berridge. Gwladys Soman. Dave Morris. Les Altos. Bioscope. Vera Hicks.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Stanley Cooke & Co. in "The Girl from Upstairs."

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Tom and Marie Motramo. Artemas. Maggie Clifton and Partner. The Castillians. Ethel Newman. J. C. Taylor and Dorothy Summers. Billy Rogers. Wally Pearce. Two Devons. Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 11.
Herbert Jay presents George Gregory in "Frills and Drills." Theo Ward. Signor and Madame Borelli.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
"The Lads of the Village."

BRIXTON EMPRESS.
Rehearsal at 12.
Rossi's Musical Elephants. A. D. Robbins. Belle Davis and her Cracker Jacks. Sisters Mestry. J. C. Taylor & Dorothy Summers. Foster Kershaw. Novacels. Marcelle Caron. Cissie Cave. Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Walter Bentley presents "Odds On."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes without prejudice.

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES, LTD.,

TELEGRAMS:- RANDVOLL, WESTCENT, LONDON.
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TELEPHONES:- HOLBORN 2462/3,4 & 1985.

WEEK COMMENCING 24TH DECEMBER, 1917.

HOLBORN EMPIRE
6.10 and 9.
Telephone 5367-8-9 HOLBORN.

ERNIE LOTINGA
& CO. in
"WANTED, A WIFE."

JACK & EVELYN
JACK PLEASANTS
KIRKBY & HUDSON
TORINO
LILIAN BYRNE
ESTELLE ROSE
ARTHUR MAY

MATINEE THURSDAY at 2.30

Box Office 10 to 10.

PALLADIUM

WILKIE BARD — NEIL KENYON
BRANSBY WILLIAMS — HETTY KING
AMY EVANS — VERNON WATSON
BESSIE CLIFFORD — SAM BARTON
FRANK L. GREGORY TROUPE

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2.30. 6.10. 9.0.
Telephones: 1004 GERRARD (4 lines). Box Office 10 to 10. Telegrams: PALLADIUM, WESDOE, London.

KILBURN EMPIRE
6.30 and 9.
Telephone 698 PADDINGTON.

LITTLE TICH
SAM MAYO
CHAS. COHAN
JAY WHIDDEN
QUAINT Q's
CECIL LYLE
SHAWLENE
ISA WISE

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. LEE GREEN 26.

MR. CHAS, GULLIVER'S
Production,
"CINDERELLA."
Cast includes—
EDIE VENO
CORA GOFFIN
ALMA JONES
KATIE HUGHES
RENEE RALPH
AUSTIN RUDD
FRED. MAPLE

SPECIAL MATINEES at 2.30.
Boxing Day, Dec. 26. Thursday, Dec. 27.
Friday, Dec. 28. Saturday, Dec. 29.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. HAMMERSMITH 106.

R. G. KNOWLES
PERCY HONRI
SAM MAYO
JACK PLEASANTS
3 PRODIGIES
DELSON & GOOD TRIO
HAYMAN & FRANKLIN
BETANCOURT
FIVE JOVERS

CAMBERWELL PALACE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. HOP 1095.

GEO. MOZART
MARIE LOFTUS
VASCO
WILL H. FOX
ANNA DOROTHY HARTLEY
WONDERS
BERT WESTON
WYN & IVY
MERVAN GIRLS

GRAND PALACE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION
6.30 and 9.
Tel. BATTERSEA 88.

MARY MAYFREN
& CO. in
"THE WOMAN OF LOUVAIN."
WISH WYNNE
KIRKBY & HUDSON
7 NOBODIES
JOANNYS
MAY LEVEY
NONDESCRIPTS
TED SAUNDERS

OLYMPIA, SHOREDITCH
6.30 and 9.
Tel. LONDON WALL 1628.

MR. CHAS. GULLIVER'S
Production,
"MOTHER GOOSE."
Cast includes—
ELISE CRAVEN
DAISY STRATTON
WOODHOUSE & WELLS
FATTY ROMA
GEO. GROGIE
JOHN McMAHON
GEO. RENEY

SPECIAL MATINEES at 2.30
Boxing Day, Dec. 26. Thursday, Dec. 27.
Friday, Dec. 28. Saturday, Dec. 29.

ILFORD HIPPODROME
6.20 and 8.50.
Tel. ILFORD 716.

MR. CHAS. GULLIVER'S
Production,
DICK WHITTINGTON
Cast includes—
LORNA & TOOTS POUNDS
TOM E. HOOD
JOHNNY SCHOFIELD
MARCELLE WILSON
WILL JOHNSON
HARRY BRISTOW
PHIL RALLIS DUO

SPECIAL MATINEES at 2.30.
Boxing Day, Dec. 26. Thursday, Dec. 27.
Friday, Dec. 28. Saturday, Dec. 29.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME
6.30 and 8.50.
Tel. WOOLWICH 69.

JOHN LAWSON
& CO. in
"HUMANITY."
HARMONY FOUR
MABEL MANSON
CARRIE LAURIE'S NEW JUVENILES
RECORD QUARTETTE
THE STELLIOS
TAKIO
BERT WESTON

MATINEE THURSDAY at 2.30

CROYDON EMPIRE
6.30 and 8.50.
Tel. CROYDON 1174.

H. M. VERNON
presents
"THE DOUBLE ESCAPE."
MARIE DAINTON
GEO. NEWBURN
JOE & WILLY
OSWALD BEMAND
SHIRLEY & RANSOME
THE DAYS
BORNEO GARDINER

ISLINGTON EMPIRE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. NORTH 571.

PIMPLE (HIMSELF)
& CO. in
"FATHER."
JACK LANE
BERT TERRELL
DALY & HEALY
SISTERS MACARTE
SUTHER
NINA DUMAI
ISOBEL DOROTHY

POPLAR HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. EAST 64.

WISH WYNNE
FRED RUSSELL
ESTELLE ROSE
7 LE ROYS
DUSTY RHODES
LILIAN & GRACIE
FRANK SYLVO
THE STEDMANS

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. WILLESDEN 49.

"THE HOUSE THAT JERRY BUILT,"
featuring
LEW LAKE
BOB MORRIS
SIX MUSICAL NAVVIES
DALE & O'MALLEY
EVELYN MAY & PIANIST
WARNER

BALHAM HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. STREATHAM 1708

HARRY DAY
Presents
"PLEASURE BOUND,"
featuring
JOS. ALEXANDRE
CHAS. CHILDERSTONE
FLORENCE WILLIAMS
GEORGE SPRY
NORA DWYER
HANLON CHARLES TRIO

PUTNEY HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. PUTNEY 2002.

CORAM
JAY WHIDDEN
MAURICE
DOLLY ELSWORTHY
EVA, BETTY & WESTELL GORDON
PHIL KAUFFMANN
PAGET TRIO
WITT & BUTT

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. HOP. 1134.

CHAS. AUSTIN
& CO. in
"PARKER'S APPEAL."
C. J. JOHNSON
HORACE WHITE
BRETT & DIX
LILY LASSAH
CHAS. LEVEY
TOPSY LEE

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE
TWICE NIGHTLY, 6.30 & 9.
Tel. BRIXTON 905.

"ALL BRITISH,"
featuring
JACK CARDIFF
DICKIE JUNE
MAY HILL
JOAN DEERING

CROYDON HIPPODROME
TWICE DAILY
at 2.30 and 7.30
Tel. CROYDON 1444.

MR. CHAS. GULLIVER'S
Production,
SINBAD THE SAILOR
Cast includes
NAN CHESTER
DOROTHY DEAN
DORIS MAY
GEO. RAPLEY
TOM B. DAVIS
FRED ALLSOP
MATHISON JONES

MANAGING DIRECTOR Mr. CHARLES GULLIVER TO WHOM ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED.

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